The Middlebury Campus

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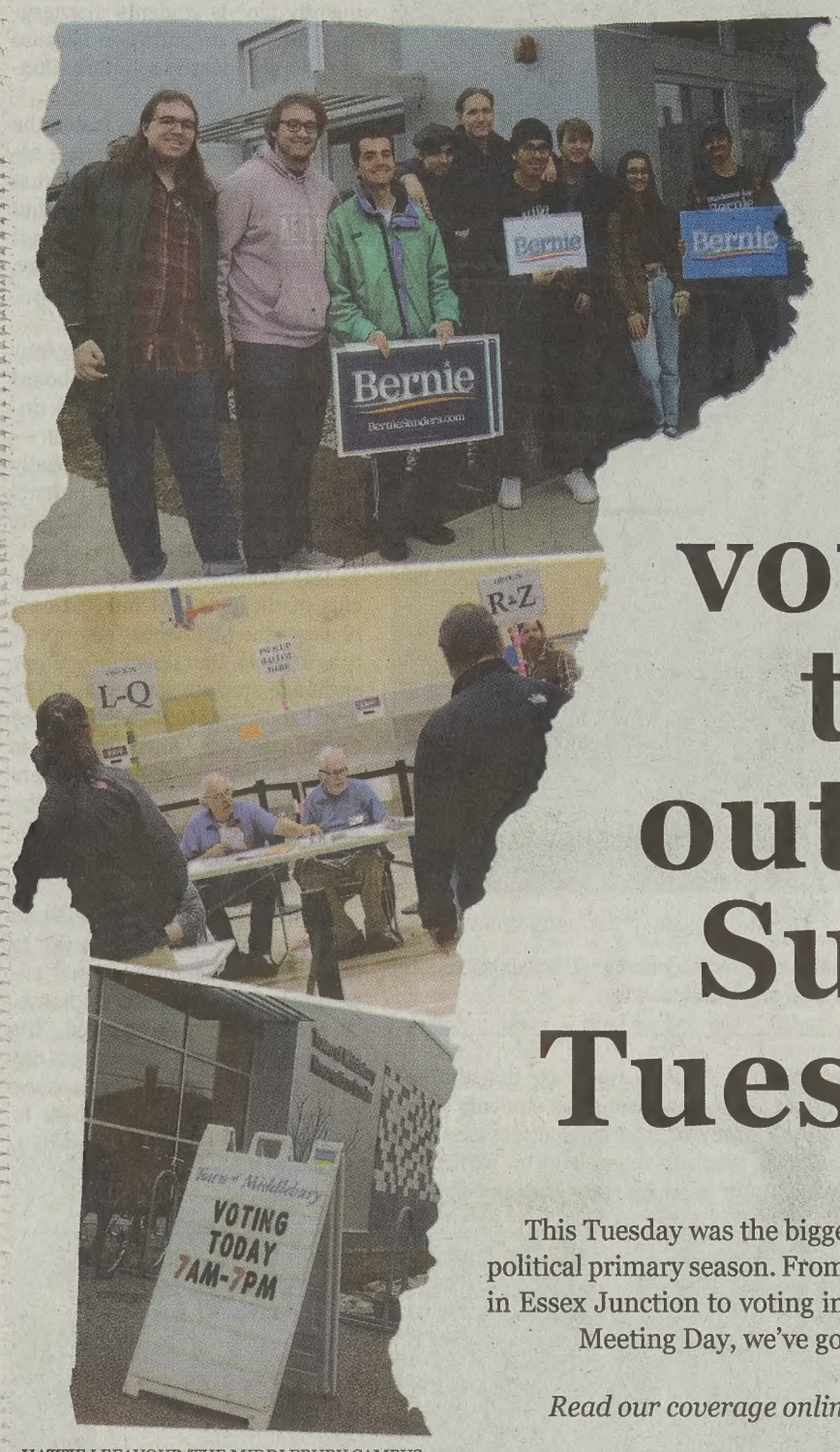

HATTIE LEFAVOUR/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

Vt. voters turn out for Super Tuesday

This Tuesday was the biggest day in the 2020 political primary season. From Bernie Sanders' rally in Essex Junction to voting in Middlebury to Town Meeting Day, we've got you covered.

Read our coverage online at go/campus.

How do you feel about Charles Murray's upcoming visit? What will you be doing on March 31?

We want to know. Answer our anonymous two-question poll at go/pollcurve.

Beloved Ferrisburgh camel, Ollie, dies at 17

SARAH FAGAN/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

By HATTIE LEFAVOUR
Local Editor

Oliver "Ollie" the camel, for years an unlikely Route 7 celebrity and Vermont's resident two-humped treasure, died on the evening of Feb. 21 at his farm in Ferrisburgh, Vt. He was 17 years old.

Ollie, a seven-foot-tall, 1,500-lb Bactrian camel often described as a "ham for the camera," prompted countless roadside double-takes as he meandered around the pastures at Round Barn Merinos farm. Passersby and locals alike frequented Ollie's fence, where he was known to mosey away from the sheep herds to nuzzle cheek-to-cheek for pictures and snacks.

"He wants people to acknowledge him and he'll run and play for attention," Round Barn Merinos farm owner Judith Giusto told The Campus in 2010. "People stop all the time."

Ollie had been feeling under the weather in the week preceding his death, according to his Facebook page, though the ultimate cause of his passing was not reported. The online announcement was met with a deluge of love for the camel, with hundreds of comments and photos pouring in from his widespread admirers.

North Chittenden resident Kirsten Bouchard shared that, after her daughter was diagnosed with diabetes at the age of two, she began driving up Route 7 to Burlington every three months for doctor's appointments.

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All schools abroad in Italy canceled due to coronavirus concerns

By SOPHIA MCDERMOTT-HUGHES
Staff Writer

Middlebury has canceled the three C.V. Starr Schools in Italy for this spring semester due to concerns over the coronavirus COVID-19.

In an email sent to students studying in Florence, Rome and Ferrara on Feb. 29, the college advised students to return to the United States as soon as possible. Each student will have the option to take the semester off and get refunded for the semester's tuition, or to take online classes taught by professors at Sede Capponi, the Middlebury Center in Florence.

The decision was prompted by concerns that students might face more difficulties leaving the country as the virus spreads and governments impose stricter travel travel regulations, according to Assistant Director of International Programs Alessandra Capossela. The CDC raised the Italy travel advisory to "Level 3 — Avoid Non Essential Travel" on Feb. 28. The next day, the U.S. State Department raised the travel advisory level for Lombardy and Veneto, the epicenter of coronavirus in Italy, to "Level 4 — Do Not Travel."

In January, President Trump placed strict restrictions on travel to and from China, where the virus originated. The college cancelled its schools in Hangzhou, Kunming and

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BENJY RENTON/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

Winter Carnival draws students and community members to fireworks, ski races and the beloved ice show. Students braved the cold to celebrate winter in Vermont.

You've got (so, so much) mail

Mail center receives award for efficiency

By ARIADNE WILL
Local Editor

The Middlebury Student Mail Center received an award for efficiency in distribution from technology company Neopost in October after delivering over 89,000 packages in the 2018-19 school year. In comparison, Miami University, a public research university with around 24,000 students, received the same efficiency award for colleges and universities with more than 7,000 students. The university, in the 2018–19 school year, received 91,000 packages — only 2,000 more than Middlebury.

To Jacki Galenkamp, mail center supervisor, the award signals what she had already noticed in the mail room.

"We've been receiving over 1,000 packages a day," she said last week, adding that the Mail Center processed 99,600 packages in the 2019 calendar year. "We receive staff and faculty packages, but the majority of packages are student [packages]." Galenkamp added that she believes the rurality of the college has everything to do with the abundance of packages.

"We don't have a lot of shopping [in town]," she said. "The options here are more limited than even [those in] Burlington, or those of any college in New Jersey or Connecticut."

In accordance with reporting from fall 2018, Galenkamp said she does not believe that the increased package volume is a result of the on-

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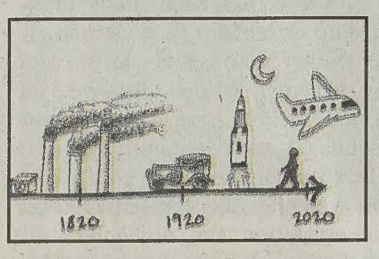

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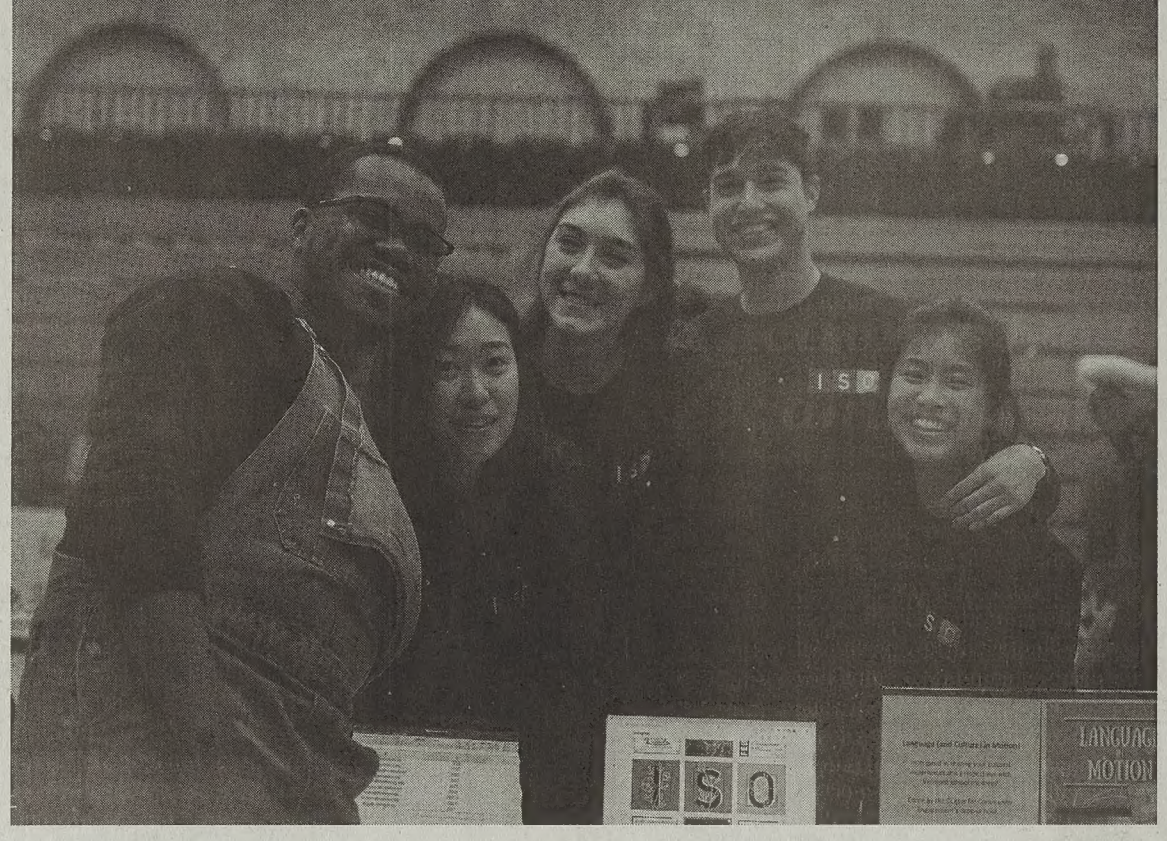
ISO opens conversation on residential space

By ABIGAIL CHANG
SGA Correspondent



EMMANUEL TAMRAT/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

Members of the International Student Organization (ISO) drew new members at the Student Activities Fair last month. ISO is in the process of establishing a residential space associated with their organization.

As the housing application process kicks off, the International Student Organization (ISO) is eying a residential space for international students that would function as a space for intercultural dialogue across the student body. The ISO executive board voted to apply for superblock status for the 2020–2021 school year after presenting its proposal to the SGA senate and the Community Council.

ISO members drafted a house charter and superblock application last week and will present the application to the housing office on March 5. If awarded the house, they will run applications for seven resident spots from March 6 to 20.

The idea of creating an international student house has existed for many years, according to Kelly Zhou '22, co-president of the ISO. Co-President Arthur Martins '22 took the lead in organizing a team to work on pursuing a residential space. Though they initially wanted to apply for special interest house status, Community Council advised that they apply for a superblock this year due to the short timeframe for approval.

Superblocks are only traditionally open only to juniors and seniors. However, the senate passed a resolution Feb. 23 in support of re-evaluating the proposal next winter and supporting ISO in applying for a special interest house in the following school year, which will also be open to sophomores.

"The house came as this proposal for institutionalizing a space on campus where not only international students could live in or anyone who has interest in international issues could live in, but it could act as a hub for an active engagement with diversity, for promotion of intercultural dialogue," Martins said.

Martins was clear that the ISO house welcomes all students — not only international students — who want to learn how to participate in cross-cultural discussions. One issue he said ISO members frequently face is students disengaging with the organization because they do not identify as international.

"A joke that we have inside the board is that whenever we're at activities fairs, it's so common that students will just immediately shut us down, say, 'Hey, ok, but I'm not international,' but we would say, 'Well, you're international to us,'" he said.

Martins noted how three or four of the seven ISO executive board members are what he called domestic international students — students who may not be legally defined as international students because they have a U.S. passport or U.S. Permanent Resident status.

ISO intends to extend the benefits of the potential international house to the Middlebury community as a whole. Dan Golstein, a junior exchange student serving as ISO's first Exchange Student Experience Coordinator, explained that ISO is hoping to host community dinners and other meals and increase the frequency of the current monthly Monday tea, which serves as a space for discussion.

As an exchange student, Golstein will never have the opportunity to live in either an international superblock or special interest house. "It's not about credit," he said. "It's not about saying it was us that did it. It's about just getting it done because, ultimately, we're here to represent and to care for and to serve and to protect international students."

MiddKid Mega Project offers $100,000 in grants for students

By RACHEL LU
SGA Correspondent

The Student Government Association Finance Committee is dedicating $100,000 of budget surpluses to fund student-run projects through the MiddKid Mega Project. The committee is accepting applications on a rolling basis until March 20, or whenever money runs out. Project proposals can include events, experiences or other investments to enrich student-life on campus and will be carried out this spring and next fall.

Kenshin Cho '20, chair of the finance committee, explained that this initiative is a one-time competition to incentivize creative ideas and expedite the process of funding them.

"We want to unleash the creative energy of the community."

Kenshin Cho, Chair of SGA Finance Committee

The Finance Committee identified the $100,000 surplus in the student activities budget in its mid-year report. The student activities fee this year was $426 as included in the tuition, an $8 increase from last year. The Finance Committee allocates this fee, a cumulative $1,080,000, to student organizations and other events.

The Finance Committee attributes this surplus to both the $8 increase and an abnormally high rate of student organizations returning allocated funds. They attribute this increased return rate to confusion generated by the college's switch to a new finance system, Oracle — clubs spent less money because they did not understand how the system worked and were cautious about overspending.

Cho and the Finance Committee wanted to spend the money deliberately, so they turned to the community for ideas.

The committee determined that it is best to spend the money this year because it is a portion of tuition paid by current students, Cho explained.

Cho is aware that funding can be complicated, but he hopes that this project will allow students to start projects while avoiding many of the complex obstacles that frequently accompany funding.

"We don't want student organizations to make decisions based on how much money they get, and instead start making decisions based on what they want to do and ask for money afterwards," said Cho. "We are thinking about ways to open up funding to individuals and organizations, particularly without the commons system, because that's where a lot of individuals used to go to plan small events."

Amanda Reinhardt, director of student activities, serves as an advisor to the Finance Committee. Reinhardt stressed that an important role of SGA is identifying gaps in student activities.

"This opportunity is here so students can get creative, and you don't have to be part of a student org to do something. It's an opportunity to name what's missing," said Reinhardt.

A board consisting of the 13 members of the Finance Committee, two SGA senators and one cabinet committee member will judge the project proposals.

The application process includes an initial online form followed by an in-person pitch to the committee. Cho wanted perspectives beyond those of Finance Committee members represented in the consideration. Furthermore, the committee will prioritize proposals that address concerns highlighted by past surveys, such as Zeitgeist and exit surveys completed by graduating seniors.

As of last weekend, the committee received six applications. One application has already stood out to Cho: the SGA's technology committee's proposal to fund a Hackathon. This initiative will probably be the first to receive funds from The MiddKidd Mega-Project. Cho noted that the Hackathon will involve collaboration between various organizations and requires a large budget but he thinks that the event will be meaningful.

"We definitely want to spread the word because it's a great opportunity. It's one of the few times the SGA is putting money behind what they want to do, which is to listen to student concerns about social life and extracurricular life," said Cho. "We want to take advantage of that and hear a really diverse range of ideas. We want to unleash the creative energy of the community."

Editor's note: Kenshin Cho '20 was formerly a Local editor for The Campus.

In low-turnout election, students vote to reduce size of senate, re-brand senators 'representatives'

Referendum eliminates five common senator positions

By SOPHIA MCDERMOTT-HUGHES
Staff Writer

Students voted last week in favor of eliminating the position of commons senator, reducing the Student Government Association senate from 17 to 12 members. The Feb. 26 vote also confirmed a title change for SGA members, from "senators" to "representatives." Both items were part of a referendum that was proposed in response to the dissolution of the commons system. Only 264 students voted, about 10% of the student body.

The referendum passed with 57.6% of the student vote. The changes will be implemented at the start of the 2020–21 academic year, according to the SGA constitution. These changes will affect elections this spring.

"Lack of participation in this referendum is indicative of a larger issue of communication between the student body and the student government," said SGA Director of Membership Thomas Khodad '22. "We are addressing this issue not only by reducing the number of representatives but also by increasing student outreach and transparency."

Cook Commons Senator Karina Sharma '22, whose current position will be terminated next year by the elimination of the commons system and the referendum, said that she thinks the dissolution of the commons system has given the SGA a chance to re-evaluate the structure of the senate and to reframe it for efficiency. "With a smaller senate, each representative will be able to contribute more, which will foster deeper conversation and more accountability," she said.

Wonnacott Commons Senator Senator Myles Maxie '22, whose current position will also be eliminated, claims that the wording of the referendum questions misrepresented the issue at stake. The first question in particular asked whether students "support the elimination of the Commons Senator positions." Maxie noted that the commons senator positions will be eliminated with the commons system regardless next year, and said that the real question was whether the senate should shrink or create new positions to replace those senators.

Maxie believes that this change will only exacerbate current problems because students, by his assessment, already view the SGA as an elitist, ineffective, and overly bureaucratic body.

"I don't think the answer to solving an issue of representation is to make fewer representatives," Maxie said.

Maxie is not contesting the referendum results, but he believes that this incident highlights the need for a constitutional update. The senate is already planning to examine and possibly change the constitution at the end of this year in relation to unclear impeachment rules.

Student activists lead workshops on organizing, protesting

By LILY JONES
Contributing Writer

Leif Taranta '20.5, along with other student activists in the Sunday Night Environmental Group (SNEG) and the Trans Affinity Group (TAG), has been leading and planning workshops that aim to teach the Middlebury community how to be more effective activists. While the workshops have covered a variety of topics, they center around what Taranta calls "the hard skills of organizing" and inform students about current movements.

Taranta has been doing organizing work since they were in elementary school and has worked with organizations focused on fossil fuel resistance, immigrant solidarity and community support. Taranta utilizes their own skills to educate others specifically on de-escalation and nonviolent direct action, but also brings outside trainers to campus to assist with the workshops.

Upcoming workshops on March 14 and March 18, led by outside trainers Sonia Silbert and Emma Schoenberg, will address nonviolent direct action and de-escalation. In April, regional activists will come to campus to discuss issues including native sovereignty, regenerative agriculture and regional fossil fuel resistance.

"One of the main purposes is to give people the tools to create a better world, wherever they see themselves fitting into that," said Zoe Grodsky '20.5, the co-manager of SNEG, who has also facilitated lectures and workshops surrounding activism. She said that whatever path students decide to take, education is absolutely essential.

Taranta emphasized that anyone, regardless of activism experience, is welcome to attend the workshops. They noted that being an activist can come in many capacities.

"People think, 'Oh, I'm not an activist,' because they think activists look a certain way," Taranta said. "Someone might not be comfortable taking direct action, but that doesn't mean they don't do valuable work behind the scenes."

Taranta's main motivation for facilitating the workshops is to fill in the gaps they see in education. "There are so many people here that are interested, but I don't think our education is set up to give us these skills," they said. "We are taught in class to critique and take things apart, but aren't taught how to create solutions."

Grodsky has been involved in planning workshops for the day of strikes and teach-ins that correspond with Charles Murray's visit to campus on March 31. While Taranta said the uptick in workshops is not a direct response to Murray, they noted that the workshops will happen in tandem with the event.

"We need people prepared to be de-escalators," Taranta said. They hope the workshops will provide a source of community support during Murray's visit.

Taranta has high hopes for the spring. "We can be pretty limitless in terms of what we envision, and a whole lot can change fast," they said.

Middlebury alums talk online extremism

By EMMANUEL TAMRAT
Online Editor

Two Middlebury alumni, Kris McGuffie '97 and Alex Newhouse '17, spoke last Thursday about the dangerous role of artificial intelligence in online extremism. They connected the growth of the Internet to the creation of large extremist communities online, challenging the conventional notion that extremists act as lone wolves and arguing instead that such online communities sometimes inspire real-world attacks.

The Center on Terrorism, Extremism, and Counterterrorism (CTEC) at the Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Monterey (MIIS) sponsored the lecture, titled "The Language of Terror: How Online Extremism and Artificial Intelligence Deepfakes Threaten Our Future." McGuffie and Newhouse, both English majors who studied at MIIS, now work with the CTEC.

McGuffie began by analyzing the language that extremists use online, explaining that extremists often speak in group — "us versus them" — language and create memes to attract followers. They adapt the language they use to avoid moderation or takedown on major online platforms, often making obscure and codified references to several ideologies in a short phrase. This highly-compressed language is difficult to comprehend for outsiders, but easy for those in extremist networks who are familiar with these ideologies.

"Funny how you've been conditioned to react that way," read one tweet from a right-wing Twitter account, responding to another user with antisemitic criticism of the Israeli state. It accused Mossad, Israel's national intelligence agency, of controlling large portions of the U.S. government and involving in conspiracies.

"Too bad the Mossad pedophile blackmail network has infiltrated every aspect of American government. They control huge portion of U.S Congress, ran Epstein and Maxwell, ran false flag ops on us, they sell US secret intelligence."

Such phrases suggest that information is being intentionally withheld from the reader.

"Notice the placement of [the first sentence]," McGuffie said. "That's at the beginning, right? As a second person, 'Funny how you've been conditioned to react that way. So the implication is you don't have all the information; you're a pawn of somebody. And then what follows is some of that information you're missing. Like, let me fill you in, you're really missing out on — the implication is — the truth."

One project of the CTEC is to dissect such tweets to understand which ideologies influence different phrases. The organizations behind many Twitter accounts have skilled teams that use bots to amplify their message — one account posted 50,000 times in 12 hours.

McGuffie stressed the urgent need for both public and private sector policy in this area of research, but she also encouraged audience members to take individual action by voting, assembling and petitioning their governments.

"We all are consumers of technology, we're all online," she said. "Policy is important, but setting cultural and social norms is even more important."

Faculty from multiple disciplines are involved in this project, including professors of linguistics and political science.

Bea Lee '20.5, who attended the lecture, said it helped her better understand the risks associated with artificial intelligence.

"[The lecture] was a really important reminder that technological innovation (machine learning specifically) has the potential to be weaponized," Lee wrote in a message to The Campus. "Just because it has the potential to benefit society doesn't mean it can go unregulated."

Middlebury closes schools abroad in Italy in response to COVID-19 fears

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Beijing China that month.

Middlebury waited to suspend its programs in Italy even as multiple other universities with programs in Florence told their students to leave the country. Syracuse University announced it was canceling its program on Feb. 24, and both Fairfield University and Elon University followed the next day. On Feb. 24, New York University announced it was evacuating its students and suspending the program until March 29 at the earliest.

"We know that this decision came as a disappointment to many of our students and their families," Capossela told The Campus. "We did not make this decision lightly, and it was made with the students' health and wellbeing as our first priority."

A prevailing sense of melancholy hangs over the Middlebury Schools in Italy students, according to Marco Kaper '21, who was studying in Florence.

"A lot of students woke up to the email [on Feb. 29], cried a little bit and then cried a lot. For a lot of people, this is a really big deal," he said. "They've been looking forward to going abroad for a very long time, and that opportunity has been taken away from them."

However, Kaper understands that leaving the country is also a privilege.

"We are very privileged to be able to leave right now and 'escape' the pandemic as far as going to the U.S. is concerned," said Kaper. "I live with a native Italian [roomate], and he's freaking out right now because he doesn't really have a home to go to to leave like we do."

Twenty-three students were enrolled in the Middlebury Schools in Italy, including six Middlebury undergraduates, five Middlebury graduate students, and 12 students from other institutions.

Most were studying in Florence, with the exception of one student in Rome and one in Ferrara. On Feb. 24, the college closed its school in Ferrara, prompting the student studying there to transfer to the school in Rome.

Students were not in Italy long before the cancellation. All arrived in Italy by Feb. 9, and classes at Middlebury's Sede Capponi Center began on Feb. 18.

Some students feel the decision exacerbates overblown fears about contracting the virus.

"The cancellations were very upsetting because none of us were afraid of getting coronavirus," Eva Ury '21.5 said. "The virus wasn't impacting our daily lives in Florence at all. Only the Middlebury program's fear of us getting the virus and their liability was affecting us."

The Sede Capponi Center is set to begin online classes next week, which they will conduct through a mix of recorded lectures and video chats, according to a campus-wide email. Professors and students will have to surmount the logistical hurdle of differing time zones — Ury, for example, plans to remain in Europe and spend the semester traveling, while other students will return to their homes elsewhere.

The Sede courses are not designed to accommodate students who test into the advanced level of Italian. Those students are normally permitted to take only one class there, and must enroll in two local university courses or one university course and one internship. Those students, should they opt to take the online courses, will have to fit into existing intermediate or graduate level courses, according to Ury.

The college told returning students that they will most likely have to submit to health checks upon arriving in the U.S., but will not have to undergo quarantine unless they fail the screenings. But CDC and U.S. State Department guidelines could change in the upcoming days, according to Capossela.

Dean of International Programs Carlos Vélez said that decisions to close further schools will depend on a confluence of several factors, including increases in the number of coronavirus cases in the immediate vicinity of a program's locations, indications that travel options will become limited, advisories from the Department of State and the CDC and decisions by local university partners.

Velez declined to comment on any specific sites that he is considering closing.

"Given the spread of the virus we have to actively monitor every site with [the] possibility [of closing them] in mind," Vélez said. "Health and safety are our primary concerns."

COURTESY PHOTO

The Mail Center received an award for efficiency after delivering 89,000 packages last year. Staff members pose with the award (above).

Mail center receives award from package tracking system

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line bookstore, alone.

"I don't really see a huge increase [in books] since the college bookstore stopped carrying books and inventory—that's been a question that's been posed to us quite a bit," Galenkamp said.

The months that mark the start of each semester — February and September — are the busiest months in the mailroom, according to data from the Mail Center. Despite this observation, Galenkamp's claim that the online bookstore is not the only factor in higher delivery rates is substantiated: the data shows a 4,000-package difference between the months of February and September, suggesting that the increase in packages may also be the result of students moving in and returning to campus.

Feb. 2019 saw the second-most packages by a narrow margin, the third-busiest month being Oct. 2019. Assuming students have ordered and received their books by the second month of the term, the idea that the online bookstore is solely responsible for the increase in packages seems unlikely.

Though the mail center staff is unsure which factors have led to this influx of packages, Galenkamp says that Neopost — the company that presented the Mail Center with the efficiency award — has been key in the expedient nature of the mailroom.

The cloud-based system enables package tracking within the College. It emails students an hour after their package is processed in a message that states the package's type, tracking number and recipient's name. When processed, this information is logged into the mailroom's searchable database. This system allows packages to be tracked within the system, provided they have been processed.

Before Neopost, Galenkamp said that students received paper slips in their mailboxes upon a package's arrival.

"[The paper slips] were really inefficient because many college students don't ever even check their mailbox," she said. "With the electronic system, they get an email as soon as the package is processed."

Galenkamp told The Campus that this processing is something some students still do not understand. She said that many students arrive at the Mail Center as soon as they receive notification from the package's sender that a package has been delivered. This, she said, causes problems — even with a system as slick as Neopost.

"Frequently, we get students coming down and saying, 'Amazon said my package is here.' That's great, but so are 1100 other [packages]," she said. "If you come down looking for a package before you've gotten an email saying it's been processed, it makes processing come to a screeching halt and it takes longer for you to get your package."

In a mailroom that often processes and delivers over a thousand packages in a single day, Galenkamp said that patience is important.

"As soon as it's processed, you'll get an email," she said.

Note: Ariadne Will is a mail clerk at the Middlebury College Mail Center.

COURTESY PHOTO

Packages pile up quickly in the Mail Center. "We receive staff and faculty packages, but the majority of packages are student [packages]," said Mail Center Supervisor Jacki Galenkamp.

College staff brace for summer road closures in town

By LUCY TOWNEND
Local Editor

The Middlebury Bridge and Rail Project, promising a passenger rail from Rutland to Burlington by 2021, will necessitate road closures on Merchants Row and Main Street between May 4 and Aug. 5. The town is currently working with Middlebury College administrators, in conjunction with the College's 15-member Staff Council (MSC), to mitigate the potential effects of the project on staff commutes this summer.

Stacie Marshall, a member of the Staff Council who works in the Office of Advancement, said staff are most concerned about the increase in traffic the process will cause. Employees are also worried about delays, congestion and increased risk of accidents, according to a survey sent out by the MSC.

"Typically, I do need to get over the bridges somehow," Ryan Clement, a data services librarian at Davis Family Library, told The Campus "[The project] will make me figure out a longer route around depending on the time of day."

"Traffic will be much more congested throughout town with only having one bridge." said Jennifer Pottinger, a customer services coordinator for facilities services.

At the Staff Council's Jan. 31 meeting, it presented some written recommendations to the Senior Leadership Group (SLG), President Laurie Patton's advisory council. These recommendations included providing options to work remotely, as well as shared office spaces north and south of town. Employees also proposed incentives for biking or walking to work, encouraging staff to use the bus or providing a shuttle for places south of town.

It is uncertain as to when the Staff Council will hear back from the SLG regarding these suggestions.

"I go across the Cross Street Bridge," said Erin Goodrich, associate administrator of student life. "I assume that traffic will be very backed up."

Merchants Row will be closed to traffic starting on May 4, with Main Street closures following on May 27. At that time, workers will begin replacing the two bridges with a tunnel and expanding Triangle Park. There will be no construction over Memorial Day Weekend.

In addition, Franklin Street, which runs from Davis Library to The Mill, will become one-way starting May 1 so that the town can add more parking spots within close walking distance of downtown.

"Parking is already hard if you don't know where it is," Clement said.

Both roads will reopen by Aug. 5, restoring all downtown parking.

Jim Gish, the community liaison for Bridge and Rail Project, predicts that the worst congestion will be during the first five to six weeks of construction due to extensive construction traffic in addition to the road closures.

"Middlebury and the Agency of Transportation have planned extensively for the downtown detour," Gish said. "We will also be relying on the patience and good humor of the motorists who will have to contend with this temporary disruption."

Some staff members are not concerned about the traffic changes. "I don't have concerns for my own commute, because I live close to town," said Carolyn Dahm, administrative coordinator for International Student and Scholar Services, who uses the bridges in her commute.

"I remember when the project started, they were building the temporary bridges," said Clement, "and the impact was not as much as I've worried it will be."

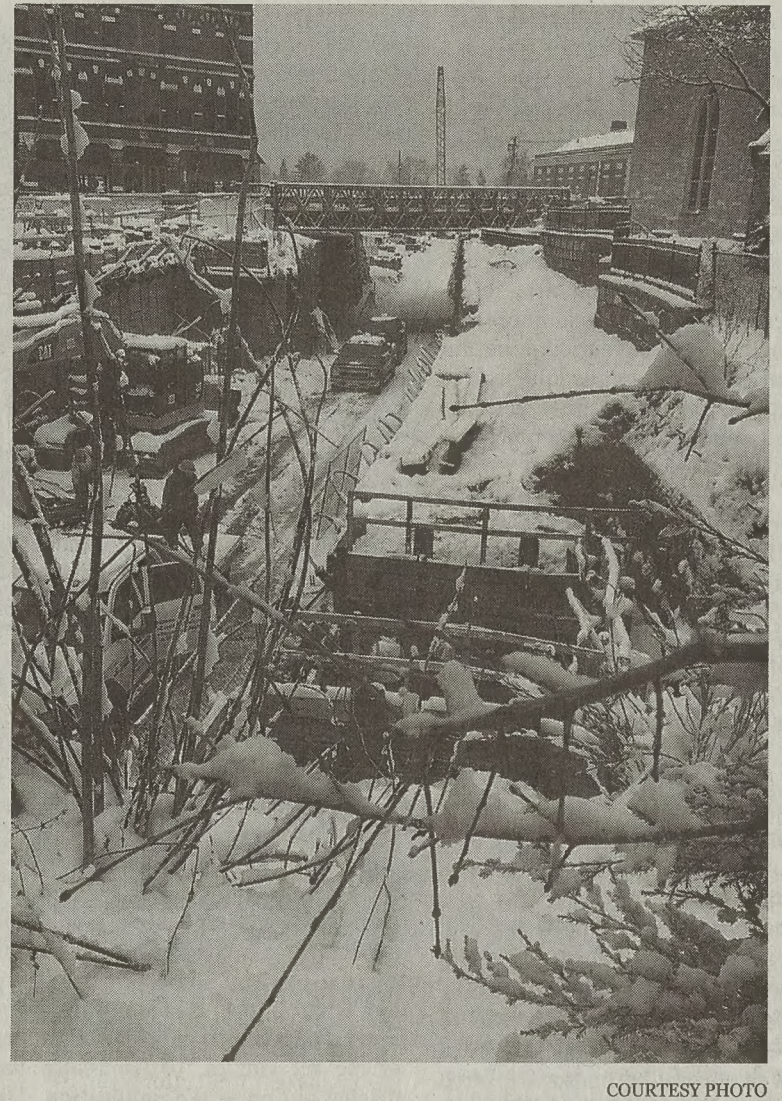
Throughout this spring, construction will entail installing timber lagging under and around the Main Street bridge, while sheet piles, used to stabilize railway lines, are installed near Seymour Street.

Jess Crossman, who works in Atwater Dining Hall, said she foresees an effect on local commerce. "I can definitely see it affecting small businesses," said Crossman, who also works at Cafe Provence in Brandon. She said that an ongoing construction project in Brandon completed in summer 2019 had a negative effect on business at the cafe.

Still, Crossman echoed the sentiment reported by many local Middlebury business owners in The Campus this October. "I think the end result is pretty great," she said, "if you can suffer through it."

Road closures will coincide with the beginning of Middlebury language schools and Middlebury Reunion 2020, but Gish emphasizes that all stores will still be accessible. "All sidewalks will be open," she said, "and Middlebury's stores and restaurants will need their business."

"I think if people really want to go somewhere," said Dahm, "they will go somewhere."



COURTESY PHOTO
Construction continued underneath the Main Street Bridge as part of the Middlebury Bridge and Rail Project.

School consolidation: how did we get here?

By ARIADNE WILL
Local Editor

This is the second article in a series on school consolidation.

Over the last three years, Middlebury and the surrounding towns have shifted from conversations about district consolidation to school mergers and closures.

Act 46, the 2015 legislation that is often connected to the closure of small Vermont elementary schools, was initially focused on the former and not on school mergers.

"The goal of Act 46 is to improve education outcomes and equity by creating larger and more efficient school governance structures," reads the State of Vermont Agency of Education's website. By this meter, many believe that Act 46 has been successful not only in saving money but in streamlining school governance structures: it is under Act 46 that Addison Central School District (ACSD) formed in 2016, a decision that joined eight different school districts into one governing body.

"Act 46 was not about closing small schools and it's not to blame [for school closures]," said Amy McGlashan, a member of the ACSD School Board and the director of Adirondack House at the college. "What's to blame is declining enrollments, increasing costs and the equity gap."

The decline in enrollment, McGlashan says, has led to strains on resources. In smaller elementary schools, a drop in enrollment cannot be met with budget cuts, as can be done at larger schools, including Mary Hogan Elementary School in Middlebury.

McGlashan explained that at larger elementary schools like Mary Hogan, an enrollment decline of 20 students — about the number of students in a class — leads to the elimination of a staff position. At smaller schools with between 50 and 100 students, such as McGlashan's local Rutland elementary school, the loss of 10 pupils does not affect the number of staff employed at the school.

That the smaller school continues to use the same amount of fiscal resources as its enrollment declines promotes tension between district schools. It is viewed as unfair that the loss of a larger percentage of the student body at these smaller schools does not affect their resources and staff, while larger schools are forced to cut positions in response to budget cuts.

Schools and districts, which are funded in part per pupil, lose state money when enrollment dips. Asking larger schools to support smaller schools takes a toll on the larger schools, since all schools in the district are sharing an amount of money decided, in part, by the number of pupils in the entire district.

Since the creation of ACSD, state funding for the elementary schools that previously resided in eight different districts is now given to the single, overarching district. This makes funding and resources easier for smaller schools to access but forces larger schools — in this case, schools situated in the town of Middlebury — to support funding shortfalls occurring at all schools in the district.

Because even larger schools are experiencing declining enrollment, pooling funds takes money disproportionately from larger schools.

In Middlebury and surrounding towns, it is this strain that brings up the prospect of school closures. With seven out of 13 ACSD Board Members representing Middlebury, it is likely that declining enrollment at smaller schools will eventually lead the board to vote to close and merge smaller schools.

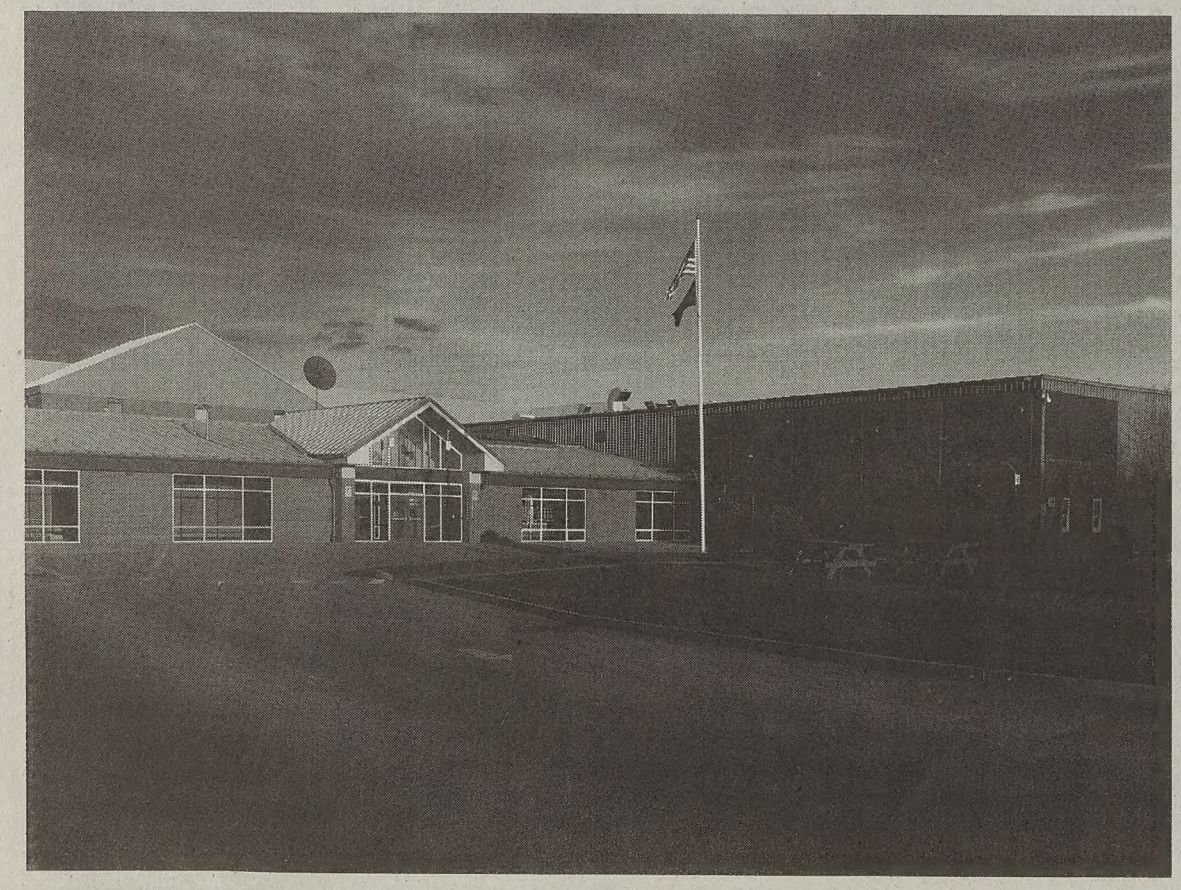
Population distribution makes this representation possible, explained Angelo Lynn, editor in chief of the Addison Independent. This proportional representation gives Middlebury more sway within ACSD — the town holds a majority of the board's votes.

Since Middlebury is the town that would benefit most from closures and mergers of smaller schools in the district, Lynn says that the representative makeup of the board has caused some smaller towns to worry about the wellbeing of their schools and has fostered an environment that may soon vote to close smaller institutions.

"When we created the articles of agreement for [ACSD], that took the power away from towns, and when that happened, the conversation around that was, 'We need to do this because we need to run schools in a more effective economically efficient way. And we're not going to close your school,'" Lynn said.

Now, the prospect of keeping small community elementary schools open appears overly optimistic to many, including Lynn.

"I think there are lots of people feeling a little betrayed by where the board is at," he said. He added, though, that there comes a point when the math does not add up: "Certainly some schools are going to be too small to continue," he said. "I think there is a number that's not efficient."



COURTESY PHOTO
Middlebury Union High School, abreast to the Addison Central School District Building off Route-7 in Middlebury.

Local camel death leaves a hump-shaped hole in fans' hearts

COURTESY PHOTO
Ollie died last week at the age of 17. His death has triggered an outpour of chatter from local residents sharing memories seeing him in Ferrisburg.

COURTESY PHOTO

Continued from Page 1

"In the beginning these trips were hard — but the highlight was to look for Oliver — and if he was there in the field it was a little celebration," wrote Bouchard, whose daughter is now 17. "We will still think of him every time we drive by. He is etched in our lives!"

Brandon, Vt. resident Louise Marrier expressed her sorrow in a statement to The Campus, describing her whole family's adoration for Ollie. "When we got to the 'spot' we would look to see if the camel was out. It was just so unique to see a camel in Vermont," said Marrier, whose children are now grown. "My husband and I would still look for Ollie. The drive will not be the same."

Giusto, a shepherd and fiber artist, adopted Ollie from Wisconsin in 2002 when he was just a few months old. She raised Ollie among the farm's herds of Merino sheep and alpacas, the unlikely bunch grazing together for nearly two decades. Although Giusto adopted the camel partly for the novelty of it, she also incorporated his hair and down into her knitwear which was sold at stores and galleries across Vermont.

"I cannot keep his fiber in stock," Giusto told the Addison Independent in a profile of Ollie in 2017. "People eat it up. They come in all the time and ask me if I have anything from the camel."

Although the New England countryside may not have seemed a likely habitat for Ollie, whose species of camel is native to the Gobi Desert in Eastern Asia, his down coat was well-equipped for the Vermont winters. Ollie always looked at home among the sheep in his pasture, a contentment he passed along to his devotees.

"I will miss you terribly," wrote Middlebury resident Scott Bourne on Facebook. "I commuted up and down [Route] 7 for MANY years and you were ALWAYS the bright spot of my drive. I know there are hundreds of people who feel the same!"

Middlebury students are also heavy-hearted at the news of Ollie's passing.

"He meant everything to me, really," said MacLean Kirk '21. "The amount of joy that I got out of seeing a fuzzy little camel on the side of the road — I mean, why else would I drive up Route 7?"

It wasn't hard to notice Ollie's popularity over the years, but Giusto has been stunned by the love and support that Ollie has received in his passing. "I now realize he is bigger than I ever thought he was," she told the Associated Press.

Although Ollie is already dearly missed among his countless friends, his signature humps will live on in memory among the curves of the Green Mountain hills.

Amending the constitution: Vermont senators consider Green Amendment

By KAITLYN GIROUARD
Contributing Writer

The Vermont Senate read a proposal to add the right to a clean environment to the state constitution this month. This "Green Amendment," sponsored by Senator Christopher Bray (D-Addison), would give Vermonters the "right to clean air and water and the preservation of the natural, scenic, and cultural values of the environment." The proposal was read for the first time in the Senate on Feb. 14 and referred to the Committee on Natural Resources and Energy, which Bray chairs.

The proposal as introduced states that "the State of Vermont's natural resources are the common property of all the people. The State shall conserve and maintain the natural resources of Vermont for the benefit of all people.'"

Senator Cheryl Hooker (D/P-Rutland), a co-sponsor of PR.9, said in an email to The Campus that she believes "the bill sends us in the right direction."

The process of amending such a longstanding document as the state constitution is complex, requiring passage in the House, Senate and General Assembly, as well as in a public vote of Vermonters.

Bray hopes the amendment can be used as a firm protection against future legislative disputes over environmental policy. "If someone challenges a rule, there will be a legal foundation to point to to say 'Look, we have already made explicit and guaranteed to each other the right to clean air and clean water,'" he told VTDigger.

Vermont's environmental protection measures often receive bipartisan support, and opposition to the "Green Amendment" is more often rooted in concerns over logistics and practicality than rejection of the premise.

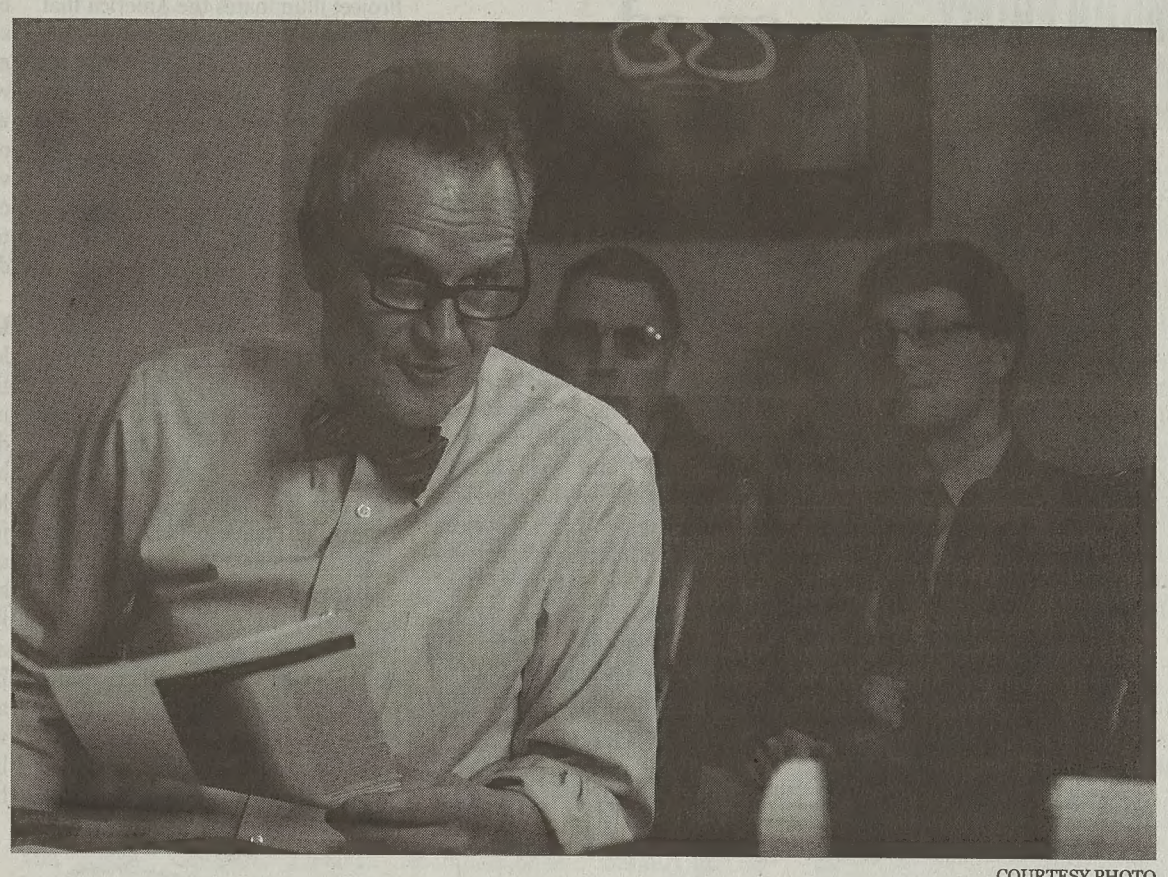
Senator Tim Ashe (D/P-Chittenden) told VTDigger that he is unsure about the amendment given the problems faced by states that have passed similar measures. Pennsylvania and Montana have already passed constitutional amendments to address environmental rights. However, this has not always guaranteed complete environmental protection.

"Pennsylvania, I believe, is the state that's often pointed to and their fracking process leaves one to wonder what the impact of that constitutional language has given, since many people there do not have clean air or clean water," Ashe said.

Former Vermont Governor Jim Douglas '72 (R-Addison) is worried about the implications of this amendment. "I don't know what this would accomplish and I fear that it would expose the taxpayers to needless litigation," Douglas told The Campus. "Imagine if everyone who can't use a Burlington beach due to an algae bloom could sue."

Douglas feels that efforts can be better concentrated. "We should continue to pursue strategies to reduce vehicle emissions, which is our greatest air quality challenge, and maintain our efforts to improve our impaired waterways. That's more important than spending time on a Constitutional amendment."

For up to date information on this matter and other environmental legislation, visit legislature.vermont.gov.



COURTESY PHOTO

Christopher Bray (D-Addison), above, is the lead sponsor of the proposal to add a Green Amendment to the state's constitution; below, its front page.

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2020

SENATE CHAMBER

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION

OF THE STATE OF VERMONT

Offered by: Senators Bray, Balint, Baruth, Campion, Clarkson, Hardy, Hooker, Ingram, Lyons, McCormack, Parent, Pearson, Perchlik, Pollina and Rodgers

Subject: Conservation and development; right to a clean environment

PROPOSAL 9

Count committee to aid Census Bureau for county-wide enumeration

By TONY SJODIN
Contributing Writer

The Campus reported last week that the college was collaborating with a local committee to ensure a complete headcount for the 2020 Census. The Middlebury/Addison Complete Count Committee, established last spring to directly aid the U.S. Census Bureau, is conducting similar efforts across all of Addison County.

Dana Hart, director at the Ilsley Public Library and representative on the committee, said that the Committee has been meeting monthly with a Census Bureau representative.

"[The group] is sort of organized into subgroups, so we've all been working within our own sector to reach out to people and educate them about the census," Hart said. "We've sort of taken a divide and conquer approach and then we get back together, report what we've been doing and brainstorm." Vermont also has a Complete Count Committee that focuses on statewide outreach to complete the census count.

The Census Bureau usually starts counting rural populations in Alaska at the end of January. By mid-March of the census year, most U.S. households will have received invitations to participate in the census, with information on how to do so. Each household completes one form, which includes questions about all individuals who live in the house, on April 1, Census Day. In April, trained census enumerators perform quality check interviews and — from May to July — visit houses that have not yet responded to perform in person interviews to finalize the count.

There are other processes in place for people living in U.S. territories, group quarters such as colleges and military barracks, and people living in transitory housing such as RV parks and hotels.

All staff at the Ilsley Public Library have attended census trainings, equipping them with the tools to respond to common questions from library visitors. The library will also have a computer reserved in the computer lab this month for people to fill out the questionnaire — the census is being offered online for the first time this year.

Social service organizations in the area are also coordinating to diffuse helpful info. The Counseling Services of Addison County has worked with partners including Charter House and the Addison County Community Trust to provide support in the process.

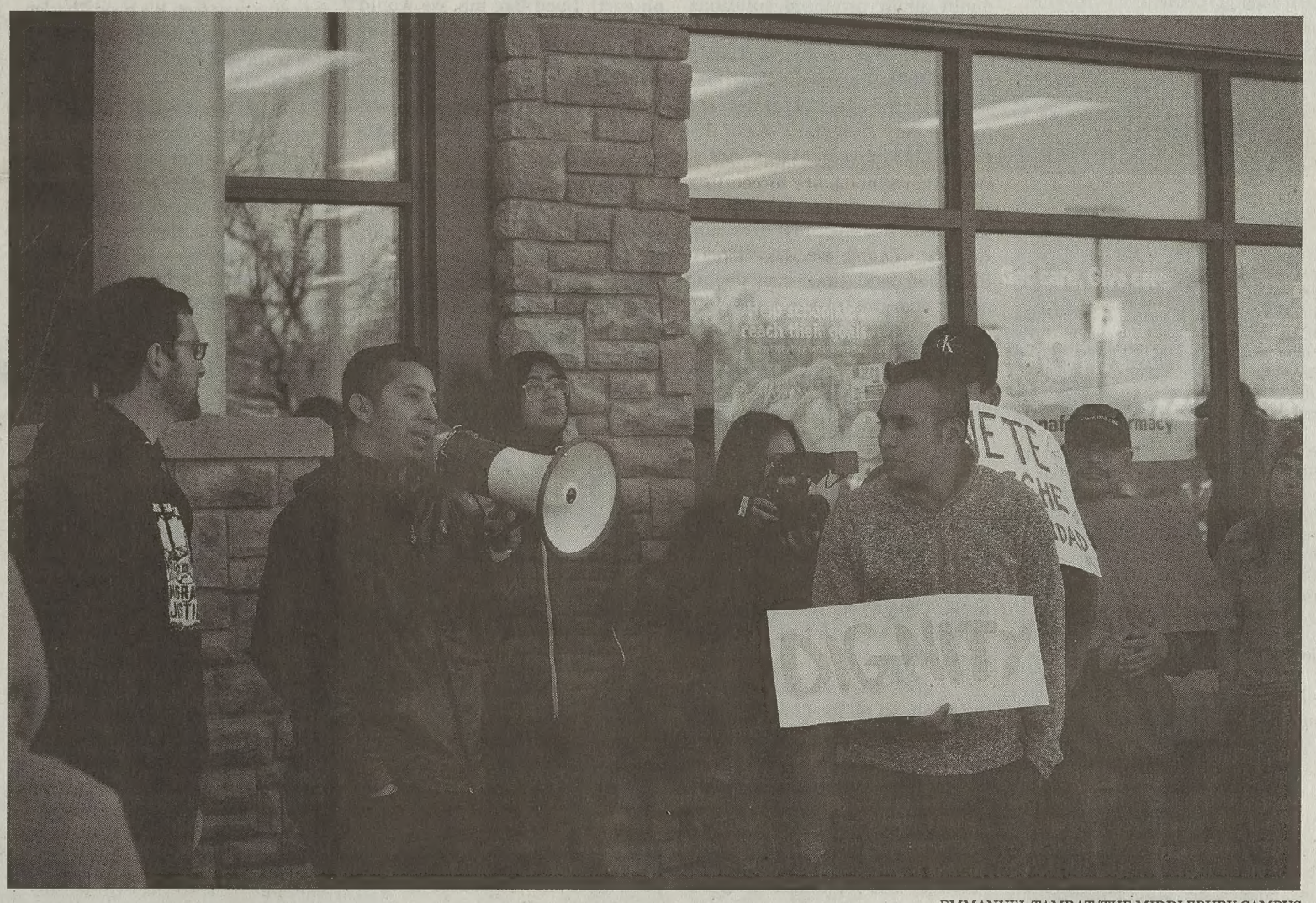
"I'm reaching out to agencies who are involved with housing [...] just trying to spread the word so people see information about the census and have lots of possibilities to complete the census or get help if they need to," said Ingrid Pixley, the housing coordinator for Counseling Services of Addison County and a representative on the Complete Count Committee. She said she sometimes finds participants mistakenly think they must share a great deal of information about themselves on the census, in part due to the thickness of the paperwork.

Distrust of the government also poses challenges to census enumeration.

"It can be difficult to persuade individuals to participate in a count of the population and to offer up information about their homes and family members if they feel suspicious about how that information could be used," said Chris English, the assistant town manager of Middlebury and chair of the Middlebury/Addison Complete Count Committee. "By law, the Commerce Department cannot share census data with any other government agency, but mistrust can be a significant barrier to getting an accurate count."

English mentioned that the U.S. Census Bureau has built safeguards to protect the collection process, storage of and the ability to access census data.

The government uses census data at a macro level to determine where to direct federal funding resources. The library receives federal funding based on census data through the Vermont Department of Libraries, according to Hart. Other government initiatives, including Medicare, infrastructure spending, housing assistance programs, Pell Grants, the National School Lunch Program and dozens of others use census data to allocate funds. "The census is an important, mandatory questionnaire that all Vermonters should feel safe filling out. Their data is protected and kept private," Hart said. "Anyone who has questions can certainly stop by the library."



EMMANUEL TAMRAT/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

Migrant workers are one demographic that the Middlebury/Addison Complete Count Committee is attempting to help the U.S. Census Bureau enumerate ahead of the 2020 Census. Above, migrant workers demonstrate at Hannafords on Route 7 for the ethical purchase of Vermont dairy products.

SMALL TOWN, BIG NEWS.
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THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

Challenging the American historical narrative

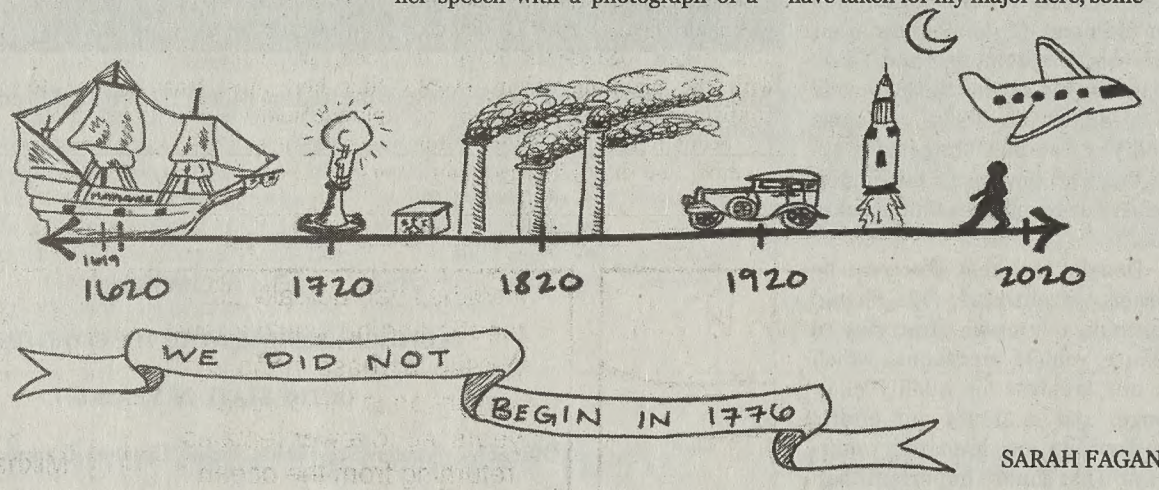
op-ed

Izzy Lee is a member of the class of 2020 and a History major.

Middlebury students were given the opportunity to re-learn American history on Tuesday, Feb. 25. That opportunity came in the form of a talk by Nikole Hannah-Jones, the creator of the 1619 Project. Hannah-Jones explained that the intention behind the 1619 Project was to place enslaved people, formerly enslaved people and their descendants at the center of the American historical narrative. In this project, she reveals that it is black Americans who — since our country's "true" inception in 1619, the year which marked the beginning of American slavery — have upheld the ideals of the 1776 Constitution, which not only declared all men to be equal but entitled all to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. The 1619 Project illuminates the America that could be if we as a country were able to honestly and fully accept that we are built on a foundation of unprecedented slavery.

At one point in her speech, Hannah-Jones referenced her own birthday to illustrate that she is a part of the first generation of the descendants of enslaved peoples to be born with the full constitutional rights and privileges theoretically endowed to all Americans. At this point, people clapped. Hannah-Jones quickly pointed out that this is not something worth applauding. It is shameful. In 2020 — in a country which supposedly decided it was founded on "equality for all" in 1776 — she, a 43-year-old, was part of the first generation of black people who could truly claim America as "their" country. In telling us not to clap, she reminded us that our job as white people is to give voice to disenfranchised groups and, most importantly, to listen to them. She concluded her speech with a photograph of a black woman protesting, holding a sign that read "trust black women," and went on to remind us that black women were the only demographic who did not have members who voted for Trump. Our job is to listen and vote alongside the people who have constantly demonstrated that they understand what it means to live in a democracy defined by equality.

With 1619, Hannah-Jones and her team — dedicating an awe-inspiring level of time, care and integrity to their project — flipped the stagnant narrative of white superiority and dominance on its head. Throughout her speech, Hannah-Jones challenged the audience to make a moral judgement on the accepted narrative of american history. When I learned about slavery in school, I learned that it was wrong, but also that I couldn't make a moral judgement about it because it "wasn't considered wrong at the time" and those judgements would be grounded in 21st-century beliefs. In every history class that I have taken for my major here, someone has argued that we cannot make a judgement on some horrific reality of history because it was acceptable for its time. A culture which enabled slavery and profited from it is not insulated from critique or judgement.



SARAH FAGAN

At the end of the day, the entire population of enslaved people knew it was wrong. Not only did enslaved and formerly enslaved people speak about it being wrong, they also wrote about it being wrong. If you claim something was seen as right at the time (and so a moral judgement cannot be made), you are clearly not doing due diligence to examine the disenfranchised voices of the time. The job of a historian isn't to maintain the dominant narrative; the job of a historian is to push those narratives by researching and giving voice to the parts of history which have been erased by a white, privileged pencil. To claim that because white slave owners and white americans — who profited immensely from a system of brutalization, murder and torture — thought that slavery was justifiable should not render it forever justifiable in the American narrative. White Americans have erased the contributions, opinions and experiences of enslaved peoples, formerly enslaved peoples and their descendants from the history of the progression of American Democracy. It is the responsibility of white people to enable these voices to rewrite the history they have been excluded from and to accept the new definitions of history, so, as far as I'm concerned, America was founded in 1619 when the first slave ship landed in Virginia.

I am not the debris

I am not a climate change denier. Still, I struggle to connect with the green movement, and find myself lapsing in and out of doubt about proposed solutions such as the Green New Deal. While listening to Naomi Klein's recent talk, I identified my position in the climate movement for the very first time. Klein described the movement as a "burning fire" which must shed away the "debris" of disapproval and disbelief. I rolled my eyes and thought, *That's me, the debris.* She then said there are people at the margins of the issue who see the problem but are not committed to the cause. They are not debris — they are the people she hopes to reach in order to help fuel the fire. I am one of those people.

Why am I at the margin? How do I differ from my peers who are devoted to the movement? Klein's words compelled me to ask myself these kinds of questions. The answer is that I cannot commit to a cause I only believe in sometimes.

I grew up in China, a country miles ahead of the U.S. in terms of the damage inflicted by anthropogenic climate change. In elementary school, I was taught about global warming. I made presentations of polar bears barely staying afloat in the melted glaciers. I saw pictures of factories emitting smoke that shrouded the sky. "Don't let the last drop of water be our tear," read a slogan pasted in my elementary school bathroom. I had asthma because of the air pollution. To me, a "night sky" meant a subdued orange hue. The first thing my mom did in the morning was to check the PM2.5 scale for air quality. On days when the smog was most severe, we wore masks to school and were not allowed to play sports or go outside. In high school, I was told to use the phrase "climate change" instead of "global warming." I remember thinking that was strange, because the earth is clearly warming, at least in China.

Growing up as the first generation of Chinese children most directly affected by human-induced climate change, it would be reasonable to assume that I am passionate about reversing its damages. Instead, the opposite is true: I have normalized climate change. I may have had asthma growing up, but so did all my friends. The smog was a nuisance, but we adjusted to it. The orange nights were accompanied by a spectacular skyline. As for the polar bears and the factories, I never actually saw them — they existed only in PowerPoints.

In high school, I took a quiz from the Global Footprint Network and learned that if everyone on earth lived like me, we would need six earths to sustain our consumption. I wasn't proud of the result, but I knew if I wanted to see my family in China on holidays from boarding school, this is what it took.

And so I am not scared of the immediate effects of climate change because I have lived many of them myself. I know that our planet has exceeded its healthy temperature, but I also know that you can enjoy a childhood accompanied by inhalers and masks.

SARAH FAGAN

I know that in times of crisis, I have adequate resources to combat the immediate damages.

And yet, as Naomi Klein stressed in her talk, these resources are not available to everyone. Perhaps I can't see the permanent effects of climate change today, but I have begun to recognize the importance of equity and outreach at the flint of this movement. Klein's talk made me realize how narrow my perspective has been up to this point. Climate change affects more than just me, my family and my community; in fact, it affects everyone on this planet. It also often disproportionately affects those of greater age, or lower income.

As someone who needs six earths, I cannot be an activist and tell other people how to make the earth greener; I would be a hypocrite. I can, however, start by doing my small part. Right now, that means recognizing my place on the edge of the movement, so that maybe one day I will catch on fire too.

op-ed

Rachel Lu is a member of the class of 2023.

Engagement is a two-way street

Oh boy. Where to begin.

It only takes a minute on Twitter to read that a liberal arts education is too coddling — that it shields students from the real world, and places feeling over fact. We need Charles Murray to bring us the uncomfortable truth and hard statistical analysis. Right?

I'm not sure what classes the people making these claims have attended. Whether it be in Russian classes or with other political science majors, I find myself in uncomfortable discussions day after day. (In part this is because one big source of discomfort currently resides in the White House, which, even as an international student, I've heard is sort of a big deal.) In my three short semesters at Middlebury, I've been anything but coddled; I've patiently read borderline dehumanizing arguments against reproductive rights, I've watched documentaries about exploited migrant workers and read Frederick Douglass' "Narrative of the Life of a Slave" until I had to take a break because I felt physically ill.

I vividly remember going to class after reading Douglass. Instead of praising its progressive outlook, my professor grumbled at length against the editor's suggestion that a female slave's escape would probably have looked very different — that Douglass' tale was, in essence, a masculine one. A reasonable inference on the editor's part, I thought, given that Douglass was only able to flee the plantation after physically fighting his slave owner. Besides, didn't Toni Morrison echo this in "Beloved"?

My professor scoffed that one could find feminist theory in any work if one wanted to — and with that, the conversation was over before it even started. Anyone who thinks I've avoided uncomfortable conversations wasn't in that classroom.

The discussions around Charles Murray's third (yes, third) invitation to Middlebury have, in many ways, been a heightened, fever dream version of those I have had in some of my classes. Like with the aforementioned professor, it feels like talking to a wall, except in this wall there is an elephant-shaped speaker that blasts the words "free speech" and "free academic inquiry" at you at regular intervals.

I don't take issue with either of these things per se. Having attended German schools for half my life, I know how vitally important it was for myself and my classmates to study the atrocities of the Holocaust in an uncensored manner, even as we grew older and grappled with the difficult views of Holocaust deniers. Those classes were somber. I don't take that as a sign that we weren't ready to engage, but that everyone in the room understood the weight of the subject at hand.

I'm not sure the same can be said about the conversations surrounding Charles Murray. What's more, those conversations do not feel like dialogues at all. As a board, we editorialized on the topic of transparency versus clarity, noting that the co-presidents of the College Republicans had not succeeded at providing either. By refusing to meet with The Campus in person, they effectively put themselves above the kind of "diligent and respectful" engagement they themselves implored the community to participate in.

When it comes to articulating these nonsensical, one-sided demands about engagement, Parul Sehgal's review of "Human Diversity" for The New York Times hits the nail on the head. As she notes, the very first page of Murray's latest work bluntly states that if you believe in the constructedness of gender, race and class, you "won't get past the first few pages before you can't stand it anymore."

Read further into Murray's work, and we find what Sehgal identifies as the book's most revelatory line: "Now that we're alone..."

"Now that we're alone. This book is for the believers. Rigorous readers, skeptics, the unindoctrinated — you won't be persuaded by 'Human Diversity,' but why should that matter? You're not even invited," Sehgal writes in her review. "How's that for a safe space. How's that for an orthodoxy."

Engagement is a two way street. There is an important and marked difference between discussing "unpopular opinions" (the sanitary way to say "unapologetic bigotry") in the context of genuine academic discussion and giving them a literal, raised platform, as will be the case with Murray's upcoming lecture.

I suppose my question is, what is enough "engagement" for the organizers of this event and what form do they want it to take? Is engagement not the myriad of op-eds published in this paper? Is it not projects like the Middlebury College Disorientation Guide and go/charleswho that keep alive the institutional memory of March 2017? Is it not the nuanced reviews of writers like Sehgal, who read his work in full and could point to its obvious shortcomings?

It seems not, and perhaps that's the point. There is an implicit demand on the part of Murray's proponents to have those he writes about confront him in person. For the bodies that his work looks down on to be physically present at his lecture, when it is clear from Murray's own writing that he is not interested in this kind of "engagement" at all.

notes from the desk

Elsa Korpi '22 is an Arts & Academics editor for The Campus.

It's time to step up: a letter to the Middlebury College Administration

The following letter was emailed and hand-delivered to President Laurie Patton and many members of the Senior Leadership Group (SLG) on Monday, March 2.

Parts of this letter have been lightly edited to comply with The Campus' style guidelines.

To the Middlebury College Administration:

We ask that you reconsider your decision to permit Charles Murray's visit on March 31. Murray's third invitation to our campus illuminates the structures of oppression that have both molded and been reproduced by educational institutions like ours. Murray is a white nationalist and pseudoscientist. His presence has already harmed our community, and we are certain that his reinvitation will further this harm. As stated in a letter written by alumni in Beyond the Green in 2017, Murray's invitation is a "message to every woman, every person of color, every first-generation student, every poor and working-class person, every disabled person, and every queer person that not only their presence at Middlebury, but also their safety, their agency, their humanity, and even their very right to exist are all up for 'debate.'" Your passive acceptance of Murray's return reverses attempts at community healing and demonstrates that you have learned nothing from the past three years.

We recognize that you, the administration, did not invite Charles Murray, and canceling this talk would put you in a difficult position. However, we believe that it is well within your interests and duties to refuse to extend your implicit endorsement to Murray's bigotry on the basis that this event violates the college's three pillars of mutual respect, academic freedom and integrity. Our education ought to uphold these values, yet this event violates all three.

Mutual respect is necessary for creating, per the language of the handbook, "an atmosphere in which all of [the community's] members live and work free from discrimination and harassment." Murray's work argues that people of color, poor people, women, trans people and disabled people are genetically less intelligent than those who are rich, white, cisgender, male or able-bodied. It is wrong to expect people whose identities are targeted by Murray's rhetoric to "engage diligently" with Murray's work, to "respectfully debate" claims that they are inferior (all of which the College Republicans asked us to do in their January op-ed).

Murray's visit will also involve the presence of both law enforcement and private security, which poses a disproportionate risk to students of color. This does not encourage mutual respect; instead, it heightens fear and danger for those already most targeted by Murray's work. And, like the Middlebury Faculty for an Inclusive Community, we question the source of the funding for this security. We find your continued lack of transparency on the matter concerning.

Academic freedom protects the essential right of students "to freely speak, hear, write, challenge, and argue." Students involved with the planning of the event confirmed with us that many of the event tickets are reserved for members of the College Republicans and the Open Campus Initiative, with the rest left to a lottery system. If the goal of the event is truly to encourage open discourse and debate, then all students should have equal access to tickets. The reservation of tickets and the lottery system instead infringe on the right of students to challenge Murray's claims at the event.

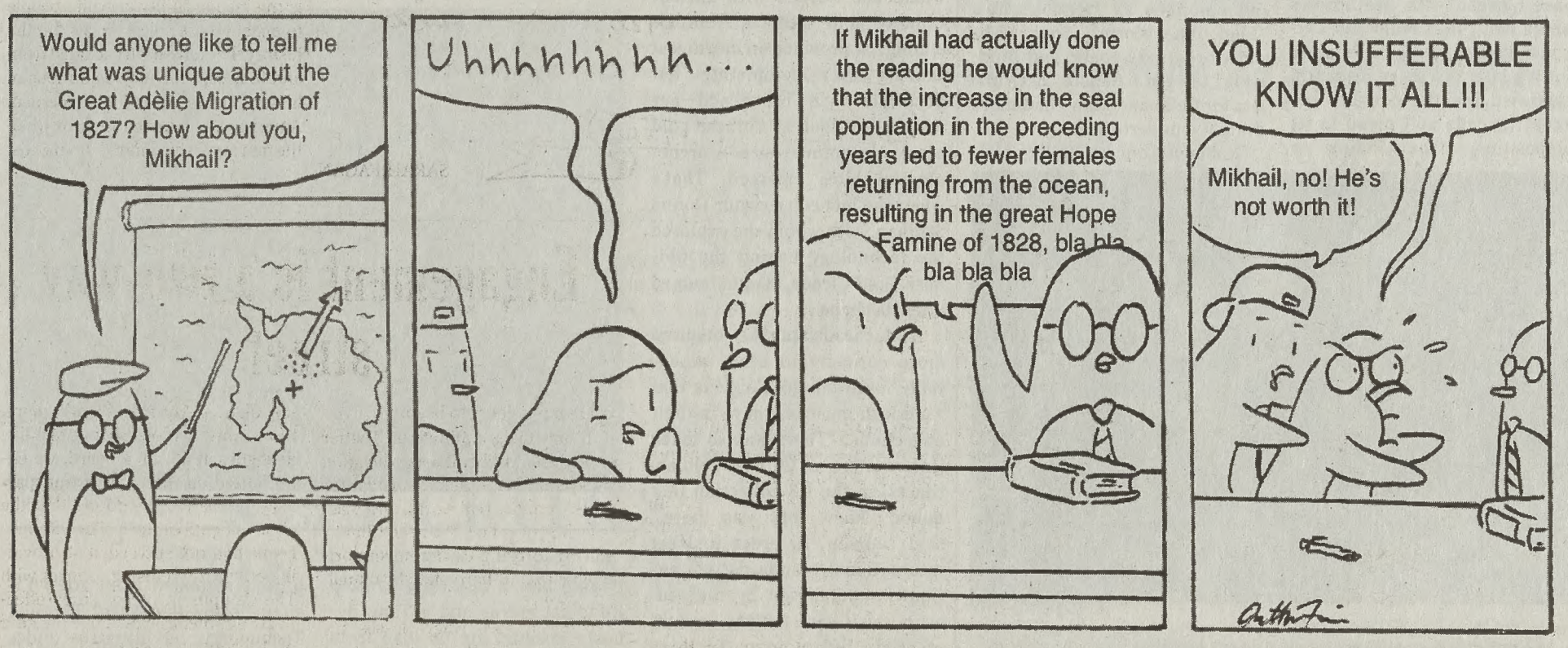
Integrity is "a key guard against false information and the abuse of power [that] demands honest and transparent reporting of research, observation, and experimental evidence." Murray's work is not peer-reviewed and has not been published in academic journals. Not all speakers here must be scholars, but those who claim to be must be held to the same standards of scholarship to which we are held as students. We must not extend academic validation to white supremacy and the many other oppressive modes of thought articulated in Murray's work.

This event violates the values upon which we have all agreed as members of this community. Our time here must teach us how to pursue justice — starting with our own campus. We demand that you use the power of your position to work with us in building a school and, beyond that, a better world. We demand that you cancel this talk.

Sincerely,
Lily Barter '19.5
Claire Contreras '22.5
Cora Kircher '20
Cara Levine '20
Rebecca Wishnie '20

The authors of this piece are among the over 140 student and alumni signatories who signed this letter. For a full list of signatories or to add your support, visit go/cmletters.

Authors' note: We would like to point readers to a companion letter, "A call to strike on March 31: A letter to faculty from students" (published in the Feb. 27 issue of The Campus) demanding that if Murray's visit does proceed as planned, faculty strike with us and join in a day of anti-white-supremacy teach-ins. If the talk goes as planned, we will not be complicit in allowing business as usual to proceed.


Would anyone like to tell me what was unique about the Great Adèlie Migration of 1827? How about you, Mikhail?
Uhhhhhhhh...
If Mikhail had actually done the reading he would know that the increase in the seal population in the preceding years led to fewer females returning from the ocean, resulting in the great Hope Famine of 1828, bla bla bla bla bla
YOU INSUFFERABLE KNOW IT ALL!!!
Mikhail, no! He's not worth it!

THIN ICE by ARTHUR FURNISS

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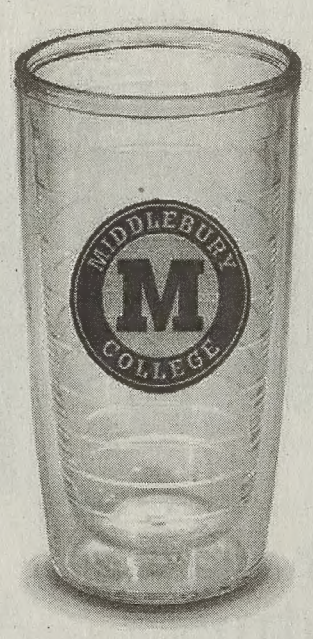

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40th on 100th: David Finckel and Wu Han Grace Robison Hall Once Again

By EMMA TZOTCHEW
Contributing Writer

Amid fireworks and other fanfare on the eve of Winter Carnival, David Finckel and Wu Han, a cellist-pianist couple currently residing in New York, delivered the 10th performance of the Performing Arts Series' 100th season.

Finckel and Wu's performance legacy at the college is extensive; Finckel first performed at Middlebury as a part of the Emerson String Quartet in 1981, and returned with Wu in 1984, marking their college debut as a couple. Their performance on Friday, Feb. 28, was Finckel's 40th appearance on a Middlebury stage.

Friday's program spanned different musical periods. The concert began with Beethoven's Sonata no. 3 in A Major for Cello and Piano, op. 69 — a piece that Wu later discussed in-depth, acknowledging the equality between the cello and piano in its composition. Transitioning to the 20th century, the second selection of the night was another sonata: Claude Debussy's Sonata for Cello and Piano. The chase-like quality of the second movement stood in stark contrast to the first "Prologue" movement. The couple's onstage awareness of one another and emotive playing highlighted the dynamacy of sound in the piece.

The final piece before intermission was composed by Pierre Jalbert, a contemporary composer based in Houston. The college commissioned Jalbert for this special performance to honor both the Performing Arts Series centennial and the talents of Finckel and Wu. Friday marked the world premier of this piece of music. An 18-minute composition, "Ephemeral Objects" consisted of seven movements, each expressing and exploring a different aspect of musical language and history. The result was effective and successful as it rendered introspective juxtapositions. The movements may also be performed individually.

Following intermission, Finckel and Wu performed works by Mendelssohn and Chopin. Though the two composers were contemporaries, the evening selections elicited very different emotions as Mendelssohn's "Lied ohne Worte" (Song without words) was poetic and fluid; while Chopin's Sonata in G Minor for Cello and Piano had more dramatic undertones.

Robison Concert Hall's excellent acoustics and intimate design, coupled with Finckel and Wu's onstage chemistry, created an audience-wide sense of awe as the notes of each of the five selections pierced and soared with the control of the performers. Met with a standing ovation, the couple returned to the Robison Concert Hall stage for a short encore before joining patrons at the post-concert reception.

COURTESY PHOTO
The New York Times described Finckel and Wu's performances as "eloquent and deeply committed. He played with a deep and burnished tone and she with a sparking virtuosity. Best of all was how keenly they listened to each other."

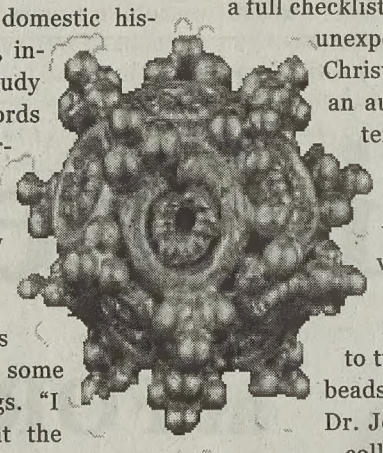
COLLEGE MUSEUM SHEDS LIGHT ON FORGOTTEN CHINESE GOLD ARTIFACTS

By RAIN JI
Arts & Academics Editor

If the two thumb-size polyhedral gold beads didn't have an accompanying museum tag explaining their origin, many would not recognize them as Han dynasty (25-220 CE) adornments from China. Indeed, when most people think of Chinese antiques, their minds go immediately to beautiful Qinghua porcelain. Little attention has been paid to Chinese gold — until now. Curated by Assistant Professor of History of Art & Architecture Sarah Laursen and now on exhibit at the Museum of Art, "Lost Luxuries: Ancient Chinese Gold" is an attempt to showcase these ancient Chinese gold artifacts.

Laursen became fascinated with Chinese gold when she was completing her dissertation at the University of Pennsylvania, where she worked with ancient Chinese gold artifacts from Liaoning, a province in northeast China. After completing her doctorate, she broadened her research to look at Chinese gold across the country as new archeological sites emerged. That's when she met conservator Donna Strahan, with whom she explored the technology behind the Chinese Gold Cicada Plaque, named after its shape.

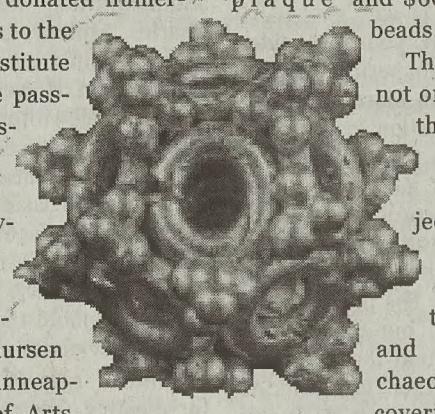
The Cicada plaque inspired more curiosity in other potentially forgotten gold objects that American museums have in their collections. "There was so much [information on Chinese gold artifacts] in the US collection that nobody knew that was there," said Laursen. In order to meet international standards, all antiquities purchased by the museum must have left the country of origin before 1970. To learn where qualified antiques are located today, she and her students went through domestic historical records, including the study of 20,000 records of the Caro Archive at Institute of Fine Arts of New York University.



COURTESY PHOTO

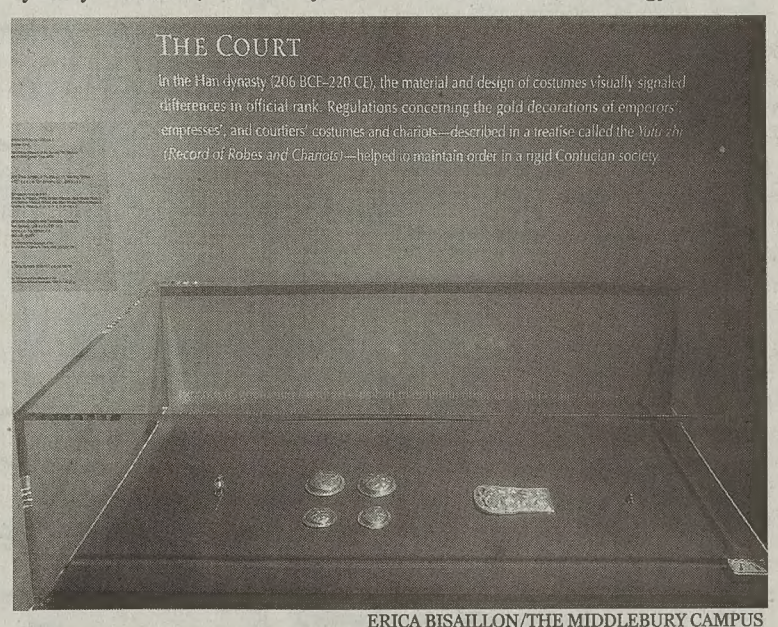
Laursen was surprised by some of her findings. "I found out that the person behind that the single largest collection [of Chinese gold] in the United States was really a woman who never gets any credit," she said. "She was referred to as Mrs. Charles Stinson instead of her actual name, which was Helen Pendelton Winston. That is tragic to me."

Ms. Stinson donated numerous gold objects to the Minneapolis Institute of Art after the passing of her husband, who was a Minneapolis native and traveled extensively in Europe.



COURTESY PHOTO
One of the two Han Dynasty gold beads purchased by the college museum of art.

After preparatory work, Laursen visited the Minneapolis Institute of Arts, the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Arts, the Arthur M. Sackler Gallery and the Metropolitan Museum of Art in 2017 to look at objects in person. Many objects of this exhibit, such as a Zhou dynasty necklace, a Han dynasty gold box, a Sui/Tang dynasty Buddhist sutras and a Tang dynasty Rosette, are on loan from these respective museums.


THE COURT
In the Han dynasty (206 BCE–220 CE), the material and design of costumes visually signaled differences in official rank. Regulations concerning the gold decorations of emperors', empresses', and courtiers' costumes and chariots—described in a treatise called the *Yufu zhi* (*Record of Robes and Chariots*)—helped to maintain order in a rigid Confucian society.

ERICA BISAILLON/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

When Laursen thought she had a full checklist for the exhibition, unexpected news struck: Christie's would hold an auction titled "Masterpieces of Early Chinese Gold and Silver" in September 2019. After viewing its catalogue, she was immediately drawn to two polyhedral gold beads, originally from Dr. Johan Carl Kempe's collection in Sweden. "I would do anything to have those," she recalled herself thinking. True to her words, the museum had the winning bid on a Xianbei gold plaque and two polyhedral gold beads from the auction. The museum did not disclose the objects' price to The Campus, but according to Christie's public records, the museum paid $37,500 for the plaque and $60,000 for the beads.

The exhibition not only highlights the beauty of the showcased objects, but also zeroes in on goldsmith techniques and recent archaeological discoveries to create a comprehensive learning experience for its visitors with different technologies such as Esri StoryMaps and a Holosonics Audio Spotlight.

The use of technology in exhibitions stemmed from 2020 Vision: Seeing the World Through Technology, an initiative under Andrea Rosen, curator of the Fleming Museum of Art in 2016. Laursen explained that the curators decided on the strategy because technology can be adapted to fit a variety of museum types, science institutes, history museums, art galleries and many more.

The curation of the exhibition has been extremely gratifying, according to Laursen. She said that this exhibition, in addition to raising public awareness, also sparked other museum curators' interest in Chinese gold.

"The most rewarding is knowing that I've changed the fate of those objects," she said.

"Lost Luxuries: Ancient Chinese Gold" will remain on display at the Middlebury College Museum of Art until April 19.

DON'T MISS THIS

COURTESY PHOTO

21st Century Theatre Festival: Mrs. Macbeth

Translated from its original Spanish performance, "Mrs. Macbeth" refocuses the traditional Shakespearean tale to center on Lady Macbeth in her struggle to comprehend her husband's actions and find balance in the power of her new role.

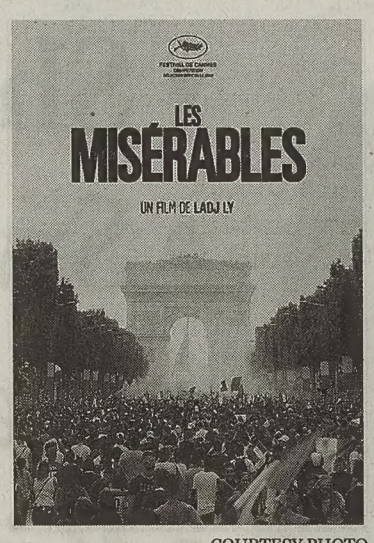
Friday, Mar. 6, 7:30 – 9:30 p.m.
Mahaney Arts Center 232

COURTESY PHOTO

Ancient Asian Gold Technology

Donna Strahan, head of conservation and scientific research at the Freer-Sackler Galleries of Art, Smithsonian Institution, will speak about the materials and methods of manufactore of Asian gold objects. Gold is used widely among Asian art materials because of its unique color and artistic medium.

Tuesday, Mar. 10, 4:30 p.m.
Mahaney Arts Center, Sabra Field Lecture Hall (Room 125)



COURTESY PHOTO

Les Misérables

As part of the Hirschfield International Film Series, Dana Auditorium will be showing "Les Misérables" set in Victor Hugo's original text's location, Montfermeil, a contentious region of the Paris projects. The story explores tensions between a variety of groups in the neighborhood, starting from the fallout of a seemingly simple arrest gone awry.

Saturday, Mar. 7, 3 & 8 p.m.
Dana Auditorium

COURTESY PHOTO

Dreamer's Circus

A young Danish trio will bring Nordic world music to Middlebury, featuring Nikolaj Busk on piano and accordion, Ale Carr on cittern and Rune Tonsgaard Sørensen on the violin. This trio is hailed as innovative in their approach to the music, adapting traditional Nordic folk music into something new and modern. This group has toured throughout Europe, Japan, Australia, the United States, among others.

Friday, Mar. 6, 7:30-9:30 p.m.
Mahaney Arts Center, Robison Concert Hall

COURTESY PHOTO

Unveiled

What does it mean to be a Muslim woman in a post 9/11 world? "Unveiled," written and performed by Rohina Malik, follows five Muslim women in their search to uncover what lies beneath the veil at Wright Memorial Theatre. This is part of the 21st Century Theatre Festival, which aims to promote diverse theatre artists' new works.

Saturday, Mar. 7, 7:30 p.m.
Wright Memorial Theatre

AN ODE TO WODEHOUSE

By JOHN VAALER
Senior Writer

I was making my way through "Evelyn Waugh: A Life Revisited" (Philip Eade, 2016), when suddenly, an acute case of literary déja-vu struck me. On a 1929 honeymoon cruise around the Meditarranenan, Waugh and his new wife Evelyn — who was helpfully nicknamed "Shevelyn" by the couple's friends — stopped at Port Said, Egypt. Upon arriving, Shevelyn immediately fell ill and was rushed to a nearby British hospital. And, in what would become one of the few tender moments of the Waughs' short, infidelity-ridden marriage, Evelyn routinely visited his bedridden wife for the next ten days, reading aloud books by a certain novelist.

Here's the déja-vu. Near the end of Donna Tartt's novel "The Secret History" (1992), the character Charles runs amok on booze, falls ill and gets sent to a hospital. To cheer his friend up, the character Richard sends Charles a few paperbacks — novels by the same author that Waugh read aloud to his wife.

And when life is hard on me, I, too, reread books by the same author that Tartt and Waugh admired: Sir Pelham Grenville Wodehouse (1881-1975). Dubbed "The Master" by his fans, the legendary humorist passed away on Valentine's Day, 1975. Two generations after his death, P.G. Wodehouse's genius deserves a revisitation for devotees, and an introduction for newcomers.

That being said, if you're in the latter camp — stop reading this, make haste to the nearest public library and check out "The Code of the Woosters" (1938). Thank me later. (As far as compensation goes: I am especially fond of truffles.)

Wodehouse's novels take place in the upper echelons of a fictional England which is perpetually stuck in the dawn of the 1920s, filled to the brim with Edwardian slang, walking sticks and telegrams. It's a world where Oxbridge bachelors party up and down the streets of Belgravia, crashing their Rolls-Royces into fire hydrants and stealing policemen's helmets. One wakes up at eleven, retires at four.

The early Wodehouse canon focuses on the adventures of cricket-loving Mike Jackson and his brilliant, quasi-socialist school chum Ronald Eustice Psmith. These books are comedic, but have (admittedly minor) underpinnings in reality. In "Psmith, Journalist" (1915), for instance, the protagonist starts editing the fluff-magazine "Cosy Moments." Psmith eventually transforms the publication into a muckraking journal that goes after a Manhattan slumlord who loves cats.

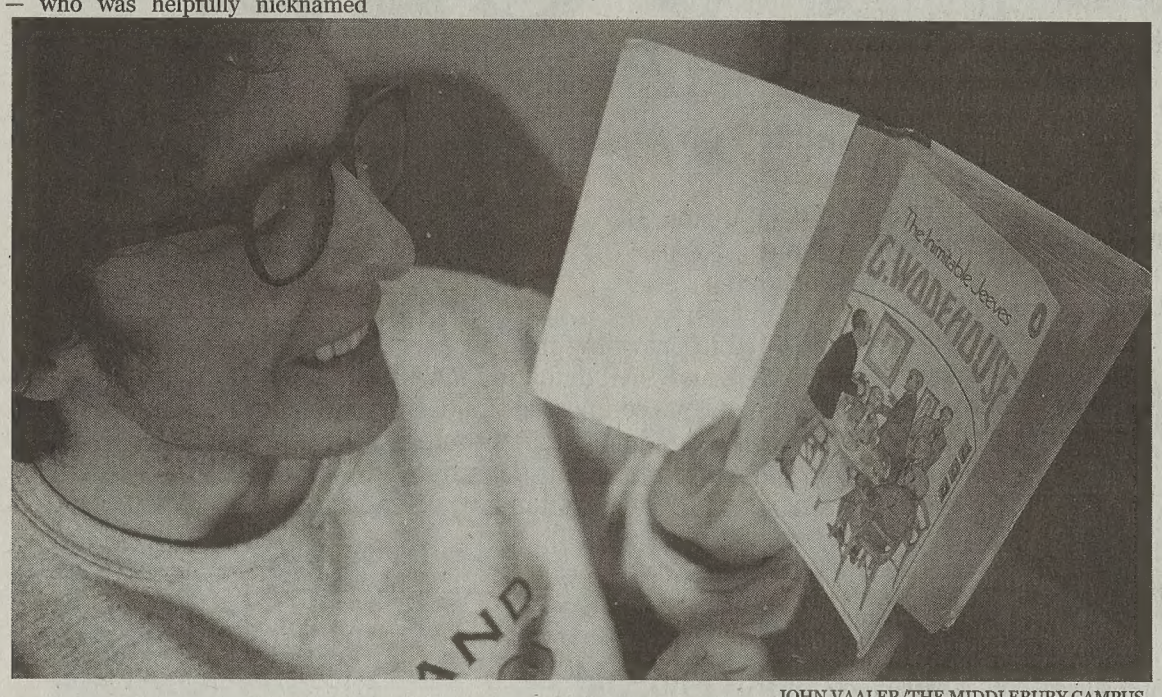
But the Master's most important series focuses on the spacy aristocrat Bertie Wooster and his superhuman valet Jeeves — whose genius, we learn, derives from a salmon-rich diet.

Bertie works less as a character and more as an accumulation of Edwardian archetypes. He's kind to his friends, rich as a prince and has never worked a day in his life. Hobbies include golfing, cigarette smoking, lunching at "The Drone's Club" and, most important of all: staying a bachelor. The last of these seems odd until one examines Bertie's eccentric suitors. Bertie's former flame Madeline Bassett feels, for example, that "every time a fairy sheds a tear, a wee bit star is born in the Milky Way."

What's most striking to me is that Wodehouse's comic mode lacks genre. Political satire this is not (hence Uncle Henry and his eleven rabbits); and despite Bertie's innumerable wedding engagements, there isn't any romantic comedy to be found in Wodehouse, either. A rom-com, after all, implies actual three-dimensional characters who have struggles in their lives. When Jeeves isn't reading Nietzsche or Spinoza, he "floats," "oozes" and "shimmers" into rooms to assist Bertie. These aren't Earthlings we're dealing with. Instead, Wodehouse's universe paints a picture of Man before the Fall. The characters are so kind, so innocent, so zany and — with the exception of Jeeves — so dim that a healthy, normal reader has no choice but to guffaw at their silly misadventures.

"We are all acting on limited knowledge and insufficient evidence," wrote Robert Frost. One of the biggest differences between Bertie and the rest of us is that the former has a remarkable understanding of his own buffoonery, a level of self-knowledge about his ignorance that neither I nor Frost could have ever dreamed of. Consider "Jeeves and the Unbidden Guest" (1916): "I'm not absolutely certain of the facts, but I rather fancy it's Shakespeare who says that it's always just when a fellow is feeling particularly braced with things in general that Fate sneaks up behind him with the bit of lead piping."

Ingredients to the above Wodehouse cocktail: a strong base of wit, some measures of allusion and a lemony twist of sincere benevolence. One laughs at first, but then smiles. For the briefest, most delicate of moments, the Master's prose shocks you with the unvarnished goodness that W.H. Auden attributed to the power of art; "Ironic points of light flash out wherever the Just exchange their messages."



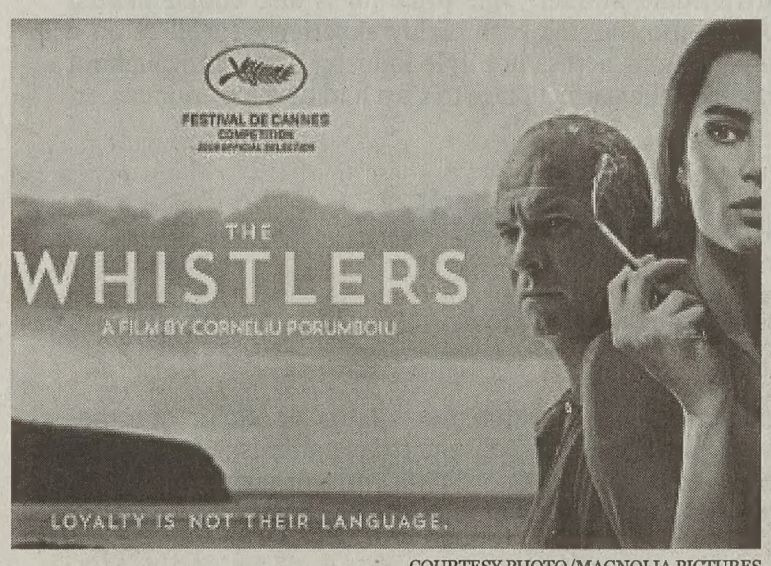
JOHN VAALER/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

"Ingredients to a Wodehouse cocktail: a strong base of wit, some measures of allusion and a lemony twist of sincere benevolence."

REEL CRITIC: THE WHISTLERS

By NINA NG
Staff Writer

Mafia movies have a unique reputation. On one hand, you may think of popular films directed by Coppola and Scorsese like "The Godfather" trilogy and "Goodfellas." On the other, you might recall the wide assortment of parodied mafia tropes; everything from crude accents to dramatic chase scenes. Corneliu Porumboiu brings "The Whistlers," a modern take on the genre, to the Hirschfield series. Packed with undertones of comedy and social commentary, "The Whistlers" delivers a curiously self-aware film with a dynamic cast and captivating set design and cinematography.



COURTESY PHOTO/MAGNOLIA PICTURES

Set in Romania, the movie centers around Cristi (Vlad Ivanov), a police officer who also serves as a whistleblower for the mafia, providing them with police intelligence. Eying a hidden stash of 30 million euros that only fellow mafia member Zsolt knows the location of, Cristi and the mobsters work to free Zsolt from prison. To learn the mafia's ancient language of whistling, Cristi goes to La Gomera, part of the Canary Islands. Under the tutelage of Paco (Augustí Villaronga), with much difficulty, Cristi learns to whistle with — and for — the gang.

The whistling language is seamlessly interwoven with a plethora of other languages in the film — English, Spanish and Romanian — to dramatize the different relationships between Cristi, the mob and their surrounding world. The blend of languages is particularly clever as characters in his orbit adopt different languages to convey different tones and emotions. For instance, while bird calls and whistles are wistful and bright, English is tense and jerky. Linguistically nuanced, "The Whistlers" provides viewers with a new approach to audio-visual storytelling.

Throughout the film, tension builds as Cristi's fellow police officers grow increasingly suspicious of him, and he begins to crack under the pressure of looming interrogations. They set up cameras in his home, following him around through hidden lenses. Even at the start of the movie, Cristi has an inkling that his fellow police officers are suspicious of him. In a meetup outside his apartment, he informs Gilda (Catrinel Marlon), a fellow member of the gang, of his suspicions and the two take measures to be inconspicuous. Rather comically, Porumboiu sets up a scene in which Gilda demands Cristi to play along and act as if she were a "high-end prostitute" he hired, tauntingly staring into the hidden cameras as the cinematography allows the audience to dance along with the two. Integral to concealing their mafia connections, both are remarkably good actors, something even Cristi's employer at the police department remarks.

A rather fascinating part of the movie is its set design and cinematography. Split into various acts, the film cuts between scenes with bright headers announcing the names of characters from whose perspective the scene is told (think Wes Anderson). From "Paco" and "Gilda" to "Mama," the list goes on. These vignettes weave into one grand heist, eventually leading into Cristi's story.

As interesting as the divisions were, they were used at the cost of effectiveness. Bright, neon colors, like those used in the character title cards, typically hint at a more upbeat film. Albeit occasionally humorous and tongue-in-cheek, the film was not quite dramatic enough to warrant the choice, disrupting its visual consistency. Between sparse humor and traditional thriller traits, the movie falls a bit short of balance.

Apart from these cutscenes, the film is gorgeous. "The Whistlers" employs an impressive array of scenery and contrasts it with the harsh reality of a police chase. The sound design is beautifully incorporated. By the seaside, in gardens and around plenty of nature, the language of the mob is almost beautiful as it blends into its natural surroundings. Bird calls bring a melodious and complex undertone to the relationships between mafia members, highlighting their complex group dynamics and showcasing a different side of the harsh tropes we're used to seeing. With numbers such as Offenbach's Barcarolle and Can-Can, the film's deliberate musical decisions soften the image of our main characters. Especially within this genre, the push to create a new, offbeat tale is understandable. Despite compromising its consistency with experimentation, "The Whistlers" presents a commendable effort with a dramatic take on crime.

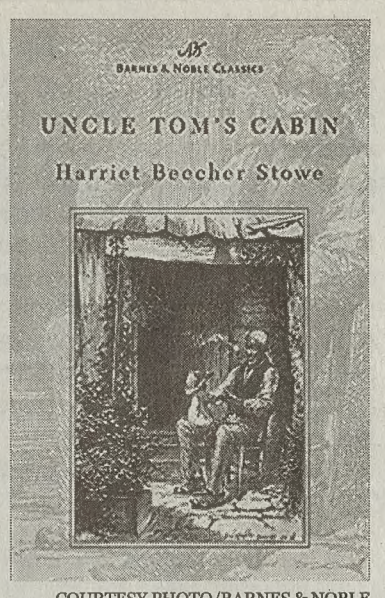
The librarian is in

By KATRINA SPENCER
Guest Columnist

"Uncle Tom's Cabin" is an anti-slavery novel written in 1852, eleven years before Abraham Lincoln's historic Emancipation Proclamation. It aimed to characterize enslaved African Americans as dutiful, loyal, pious and undeserving of their inhumane plight of bondage. With this simultaneouly compassionate and piteous depiction, author and abolitionist Harriett Beecher Stowe attempted, with some considerable success, to sway the hearts and minds of Americans who supported slavery, persuading them to see the institution as one that birthed many hapless victims. The book, some 500 pages long, is available in print and as an audiobook on OverDrive, and is melodramatic, generously doused in Christian themes and a historical wonder.

As perhaps with any work, when approaching this text, it is important to conjure up its historical context: at the time of the book's publication, slavery had a cultural and economic foothold in the United States for over 200 years, and largely defined the shapes of many lives, black, white and other, in the South. This likely meant that, as with our prisons today, for example, there was a broad variety of sentiment regarding slavery amongst the American populace: vociferous support, acceptance, indifference, ambivalence, abhorrent disgust, etc. Stowe was writing for an audience that held all of these views.

Beyond this, when encountering the moral pathos of the work, it's important to hold in mind the centrality of the Christian church and religious engagement in late 19th century cultural life — a time replete with revivals and broad, regular church attendance. Most everyone was within a pebble's throw of a sermon, likely every day of the week and Stowe's most effective position then, as a white woman, was in pulling at her readers' heart strings and Christian sentiments as her political power pre-suffrage would not have equaled that of a man's. American women's voting rights would not arrive until 1920. And, moreover, in terms of literary work, remember that while literacy and access to books was likely lower overall for the average American, the competing media of entertainment then were perhaps fewer in the absence of television, cinema,



COURTESY PHOTO/BARNES & NOBLE

Facebook, YouTube, Twitter, et al. So there is a lot to be "read" when encountering this work. The cultural lens, to say the very least, was different.

There are several overlapping storylines in "Uncle Tom's Cabin," and they mean to represent the voice of both the benevolent and the masochistic master, the Southern slave owner and the Northern abolitionist, the long-suffering enslaved and the fugitive in flight. It's "good" in that the work achieved its goal, becoming one of the most popularly read works of its time, influencing both popular and political opinion and being adapted to many formats beyond the print work. Read by 21st century eyes, however, I must say it's excessive in its pleadings; it includes caricatures, not people; and it feels too long. But I am thankful for its existence and the ways in which it helped to usher in a new era of freedom for my ancestors and other Americans.

I'd recommend it to American history majors, certainly anyone in black studies and, of course, anyone studying pre-antebellum literature. For more works like this, see "The Underground Railroad" by Colson Whitehead, "The War Before the War: Fugitive Slaves and the Struggle for America's Soul from the Revolution to the Civil War" by Andrew Delbanco or anything by James Walvin.

Center for Community Engagement

Become a MAlt Leader

Deadline: Friday, March 20th at 11:59 p.m.

Middlebury Alternative Break Trips February 2021 Trip Leader Application is now open! In 2020-2021 MAlt will offer two international and four domestic student-led service trips over February break. Come to the information session if you have any questions. There will also be leader drop-in hours on Sunday, March 8th from 1:00-2:30 p.m. in the Center for Community Engagement.

Apply for International Voluntary Service Projects with Volunteers for Peace

Creating Peace Through Global Volunteering since 1982! Volunteers For Peace is a Vermont based non-profit organization, founded in 1982, that offers volunteer placements in over 3,000 voluntary service projects through our global networks and partnerships of over 100 NGOs worldwide. Each year we are able to provide our volunteers with invaluable opportunities to build cultural understanding and friendship around the world, strengthen their ability to communicate in diverse groups and learn grassroots leadership skills.

Programs can be found by following these 4 easy steps:

1. Enter your information on our search page at https://vfp.org/projects/

2. Select "Search Projects" Any available projects will then appear.

3. If a particular project interests you, select "View full details"

4. If you like what you see, select "Add to basket" and fill out the application process.

NOTE: Check the website from time to time to see more projects! New projects get added throughout the year. For any questions or concerns, please contact Matt Messier at vfp@vfp.org.

Need Housing Off-Campus during the Summer?

Each summer Charter House Coalition makes housing available to students of Middlebury College from the end of classes in May to the start of classes in September. Students are provided free housing in return for volunteering 10 hours per week for the organization's shelter, food, and garden programs. To apply for the housing program, students must meet with a staff person at Charter House to review and sign the resident contract and provide a $150 deposit. The deposit is returned at the end of each student's stay at Charter House presuming there is no damage to the student's room and the student has kept the volunteer commitment. Two to three students are housed in each room. Kitchen and laundry facilities are available at times when they are not being used for programming. The minimum allowed stay is 8 weeks with the exception stays of no less than two weeks may be possible at the start and end of the summer if space is available. If interested, please contact Doug Sinclair at jdsinclair@ripton-coop.net.

Join the CCE Team as a Summer Intern!

Join a fast-paced, creative, joyful, and inclusive work environment and make a meaningful impact on campus and in local, regional, and international communities through this paid position in the Center for Community Engagement! Learn more about the position here. For questions or concerns, please contact Ashley Laux at alaux@middlebury.edu.

Apply for the Academic Outreach Endowment (AOE) Grant

Deadline: Wednesday, April 1st at 11:59 p.m.

AOE grants are administered by the Center for Community Engagement and provide financial support to both students and faculty for pursuits that involve community-connected teaching, learning, and research. Examples of these kinds of approaches include project-based learning (when there is a direct community connection), community-based learning, participatory action research, and more. Projects can be local, national, or international. Grantees are awarded a maximum of $4,000, and typically grants range between $1,000-$3,000. Funding may be used during summer 2020 and academic year 2020-2021. Visit go/aoe for grant details and application. If you have any questions regarding the application or would like to discuss your idea for a proposal, contact Ashley Laux, alaux@middlebury.edu.

Center for Careers and Internships

See these opportunities and more at go/handshake.

Capital Area Immigrants' Rights (CAIR) Coalition

CAIR

Council on American-Islamic Relations

Location: Washington, DC
Term: Summer
Deadline: March 9

CAIR is dedicated to providing free legal services to immigrants facing deportation in ICE and ORR detention facilities in the Washington D.C. area. Our Detained Unaccompanied Children Program is currently seeking a full-time undergraduate summer intern to provide administrative and programmatic support to our detention site visit team. This internship offers exposure to immigration law, detention conditions, and current migration issues.

Historic New England

Location: Milton and Boston, MA
Term: Summer
Deadline: March 15

For students interested in history, architecture, archives, immigration, and photography, this Three-Decker Digital Tour internship with Historic New England might be for you! The intern will work on an initiative to build visibility for and create a region-wide emphasis on worker housing, specifically three-deckers, in which they will transition primary source material into digital records, blogs, social media posts, and a final digital tour to help increase public awareness of three-deckers and their role in providing housing for workers and immigrants. Funded with $3000 grant from CCI. For more details, search Handshake for Historic New England.

Tetra Tech, Inc

Location: Burlington, VT or Arlington, VA
Term: Summer 2020
Deadline: March 25

Develop your data analytics skills as a **Knowledge Management** Intern in Tetra Tech's International Development Services (IDS) unit! This PAID opportunity is great for students interested in exploring international development and who want to provide scientific, sustainable, and industry-leading solutions to tackle the world's most challenging problems.

Lazard Middle Market

Location: New York, NY
Term: Summer 2021
Deadline: April 1

Summer Analysts participate in a classroom training program that will provide them with a strong foundation in the skills they need to be successful at Lazard Middle Market. This program is also supplemented with bespoke on-the-job training with highly experienced leaders on a wide range of assignments across multiple industry sectors throughout the summer, making it the perfect place to start and develop your career.

Brigham and Women's Hospital

Location: Boston, Mass.
Term: Full time, starting Summer 2020
Deadline: Rolling

Serve as the principal clinical research coordinator for a team of orthopedic surgeons. Obtain informed consent from patients interested in participating in research studies. Coordinate with physician assistants, physical therapy team members, and nursing staff as needed to facilitate studies.

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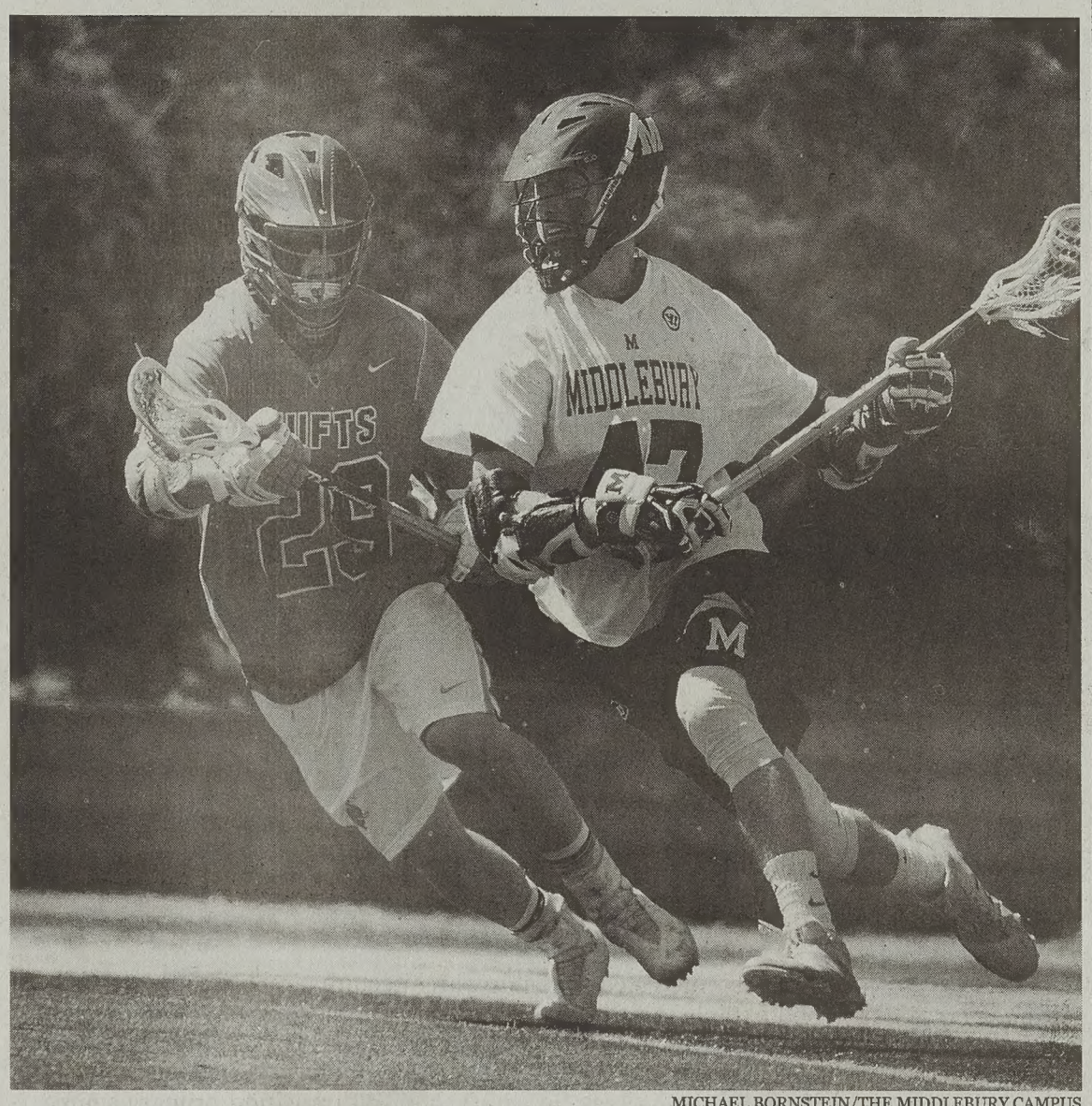
Men's lax showcases veteran talent in season-opener



MICHAEL BORNSTEIN/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

By BLAISE SIEFER
Sports Writer

Men's lacrosse opened up their season on Saturday, Feb. 29 in an away tilt against Bowdoin College. The Panthers were deadly on the attack in the opener, outshooting the Polar Bears 52–36 en route to a 16–12 victory. This is the second year in a row that the Panthers have taken down Bowdoin in their regular season matchup.

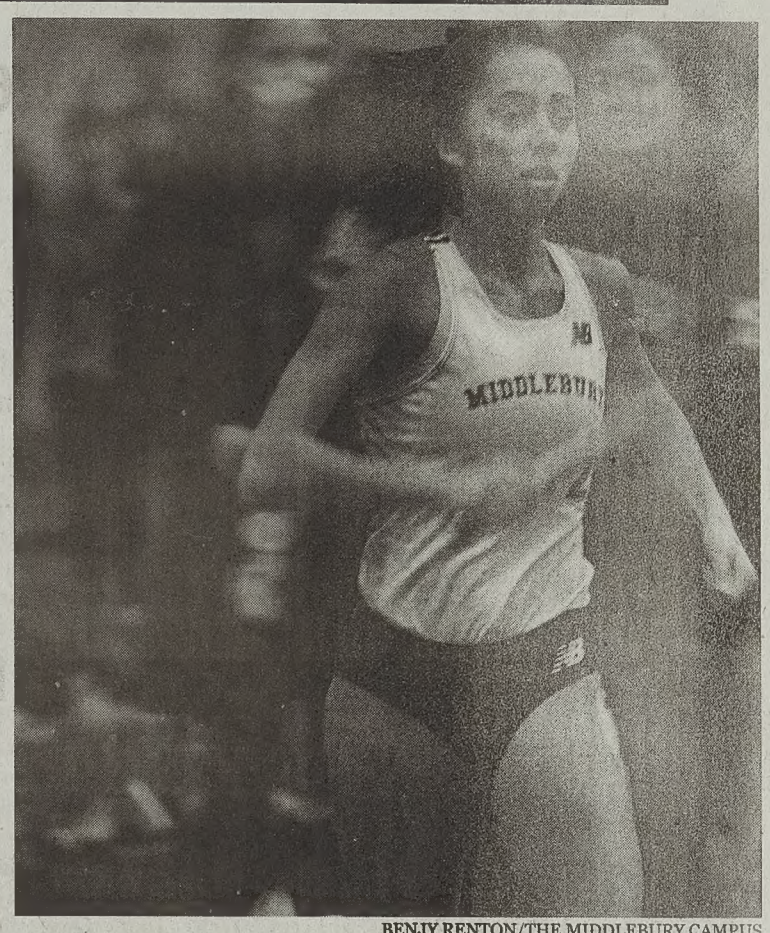
Middlebury jumped out to an early 6–0 lead featuring two goals and two assists from **Tyler Forbes** '22. Last season, Forbes notched 49 goals and 10 assists in an effort that placed him first on the team in total points.

Middlebury's hot streak was quickly cooled by the Polar Bears, who scored five consecutive goals by the middle of the second quarter. The Panthers responded, finding the net three more times before the break, which they entered with a 9-6 lead.

Bowdoin kept the Panthers on their feet early in the second half, cutting Middlebury's lead down to two in the third quarter. However, this threat was quickly thwarted by a 3–0 streak by the Panthers thanks to two goals from **Michael McCormack** '20. The teams continued to trade goals, but the Polar Bears were never able to get within 3 scores of the Panthers for the rest of the game. In the final ten minutes, **A.J. Kucinski** '20 dealt a final blow with a goal and an assist of his own, en route to the victory. Kucinski was second on the team in points last year (54), only five behind teammate Forbes. With these two points, Kucinski notched an impressive feat, hitting the career 100-point mark.

Post game, **Johnny Kantaros** '23 offered insight that the scoreline doesn't illustrate. "I think a highlight for us was how some of our older guys stepped up in new roles this year," he stated. "Especially **Chase Goree** '20, who was awarded the game ball for his hustle and grit after moving from an attackman to a two-way midfielder."

This versatility should serve the Panthers well in the new season. After a comfortable win in Brunswick, the Panthers have reason to be optimistic for their home opener against Connecticut College on Saturday, March 7.



BENJY RENTON/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

Track and Field battles through injuries as indoor season winds down

By JORDAN HOWELL
Sports Wrtiter

The Panthers had a great outing at the Division III New England Championships on Feb. 28 and Feb. 29. The women earned sixth place, while the men took twelfth.

Gretchen McGrath '21 led the pack with her fourth place finish in the 400-meter dash. In the 800-meter run, **Cassidy Kearney** '22, **Meg Wilson** '20, and **Nicole Johnson** '22 chased after one another, picking up third, fourth, and fifth places respectively. It is also important to mention that the 4 x 400 meter relay "A" team came in fourth.

Max Cluss '23 spoke to the men's performance. "Overall we had a solid performance at Regionals, but we wish we performed better," Cluss said. "This indoor season we've been plagued with injuries so we did not race our entire team."

Impressive performances by the men include **Will Meyer** '20 who came in seventh place in the 3000-meter run. The veteran squad comprised of **Arden Coleman** '20, **William Robertson** '21, **Mathew Durst** '21, and **Nathan Hill** '20 grabbed fourth in the 4X400 meter relay. It is also important to mention the performance of **Nathaniel Klein** '21 who captured fifth in the shot-put event.

With the completion of this meet, the Panthers near the final stretch of the indoor season. Up next the teams will once again travel to Medford for the Tufts Last Chance Meet on Saturday, Mar. 7 for another opportunity to compete before NCAA's.

Coleman commented on the upcoming meet. "We need to take it day by day," said Coleman. "There's nothing else we can do but keep grinding and position ourselves to perform the best we can at Tufts."

Women's lax returns hungry for more

By CAPTAIN RUDOLPH
Sports Writer

The women's lacrosse team is still hot off of its dominant season last year and continues to prove it deserves to be the number one team in the country. The squad notched a win against No. 13 Bowdoin in their season opener on Saturday, Feb. 29. Extending their win streak from last season to twenty-three games, the top-ranked Panthers stood the test of a worthy opponent.

Early in the game, the Panthers rushed out to an early lead, but the Polar Bears crawled back later in the half to ultimately settle the game at 6–6 by halftime.

After the half, the Panthers again pulled out to a cushiony lead but Bowdoin would not quit. As the game moved on, the Panthers displayed their power as they amassed a lead the Polar Bears would not be able to close. The game ended in a Panthers win by a score of 16–12.

The performance was led by dominant performances on offense by **Emily Barnard** '20 and **Jane Earley** '22, who each scored five goals. On the defensive end, **Julia Keith** '20 had seven saves for the Panthers and **Addy Mitchell** '21 forced five turnovers.

Looking at the team's success, it's evident that they play as a unit, dependent on both their offense and defense to be reliable and to keep their streak alive.

Next up, the women head to Connecticut College on Saturday, March 7 for their second game of a hopefully dominant season.

MICHAEL BORNSTEIN/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

BENJY RENTON/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

Men's squash upsets No. 2 seed; claims second at Nationals

By MAX PADILLA
Photo Editor

The Men's Squash team travelled to Harvard this weekend to play in the CSA team nationals. Middlebury faced Amherst in the quarterfinals and the blue-and-white managed to snag the victory by a score of 6–3. The Panthers also emerged victorious in the semifinals against the Navy Midshipmen, 5-4. Unfortunately, the men lost out to Williams, 5-4, in the finals on Sunday. This weekend, two Panthers, **Nick Bermingham** '20 and **Jack Kagan** '20 will go on to compete in the CSA individual championship at the University of Pennsylvania. Though they had a rough start to the season, the men's squad has gained momentum in the past few weeks. Hopefully, it continues onto the individual championships.

Ski teams give POWerful performance at Carnival

By CAPTAIN RUDOLPH
Sports Writer

The alpine and nordic teams gifted their fans a handful of first place finishes at home this weekend at the 97th Middlebury Carnival.

In the alpine races, the team showed up. **Timmy Gavett** '22 and **Erik Arvidsson** '21 picked up first and third respectively in the slalom event. On day two, Arvidsson won the giant slalom contest, decidedly. **Pate Campbell** '20 and **Justin Alkier** '21 tied for fifth. Campbell finished very well in his final collegiate race for Midd. For the women, **Ali Nullmeyer** '23 eased past the competition, winning both the slalom and giant slalom by large margins.

Nullmeyer spoke to her success and anticipation of the NCAA Championships out west in Montana.

"It felt really awesome to get the double win at our home carnival," Nullmeyer said. "It was also really cool that we as a team were able to win all four alpine events. We had a really solid showing and I'm excited to take that energy with us into NCAAs."

The nordic team also enjoyed their home field advantage. Racers put out some of their best finishes of the season at a time when they were needed most in lue of a few teammates being away at the Nordic Junior World Championships in Germany.

The ladies stepped up to the challenge. **Annika Landis** '20 placed fourth on both days, rounding out her last Carnival on top. **Peter Wolter** '21 pulled out his first career win in the 20K race Saturday. He was followed by **Willson Moore** '22 and **Josh Valentine** '23 who each had their best finishes of the season.

Wolter spoke on his success after breaking past his four second place finishes over the course of the season. "It felt like this win was a long time coming and I've been so close so many times this year that it was very rewarding to finally get the top spot," Wolter said. "I'm excited to go back West for NCAA's on a course that I've raced before. It'll be sweet to see what Midd Skiing can do after a strong regular season."

In two weeks, some of our best racers will be competing in Montana against the best of the best from Division 1 schools around the country. The Panthers will be hoping to build on their success as it is clear that they have the speed to win it all.

BENJY RENTON/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

BENJY RENTON/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

Women's hockey keeps eyeing NESCAC crown

By MAX PADILLA
Photo Editor

In perfect fashion on Carnival Weekend, the Panthers just keep on rolling.

The women's hockey team defeated the Trinity Bantams in the NESCAC Quarterfinals, 4–1, and will advance to the semifinals and play Hamilton. Hamilton, ranked fourth, stands between Middlebury and a seat to the conference championship. History appears favorable to be on the blue-and-white's side; Middlebury hasn't lost a game to Hamilton in the past two seasons. In fact, one past match included a 3–1 victory against Hamilton in the NESCAC Semifinals last year. If Middlebury wins, they'll go on to play either Colby or Amherst, who are playing one another in the other semifinal matchup.

MICHAEL BORNSTEIN/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

Men's hockey post-season run cut short

By BLASE SIEFER
Sports Writer

A season-long pattern of poor home performances continued on Saturday, as men's puck was bested by Wesleyan in the NESCAC Quarterfinals in Kenyon Arena. Despite entering the third period with a 2-1 lead, the Panthers conceded three straight goals to the Cardinals, who booked their ticket to the NESCAC Semifinal with a 4-2 victory. The Panthers finish the season 10-12-3 overall, an improvement from last season's 8-13-4 record.

The Cardinals dealt the first blow with 48 seconds remaining in the first stanza when Cam Peritz punched home a rebound. Senior netminder **Brian Ketchabaw** '20 made a nice effort to save an initial shot, but Wesleyan's power play was simply too much for the Panthers to handle.

Just under two minutes into the second period, **Zach Shapiro** '22 found the back of the net after **Emack Bentley** '22 stole the puck and delivered a deftly placed assist. The Panthers seemed primed to grab a second goal after tying the game up, but failed to capitalize on two consecutive power play opportunities. However, they finally snatched the lead with 40 seconds remaining in the second, after a slap shot from **Brendan Dawson** '20 smashed into the back of the net.

The third period was one to forget for the Panthers, who conceded three consecutive goals en route to a 4-2 home defeat. Men's puck were not devoid of chances in the final period; Wesleyan keeper Tim Sestak rarely had a chance to breathe in the last 20 minutes, facing multiple Panthers shots, one of which ricocheted off the post. This marked the second year in a row that Wesleyan defeated Middlebury in the NESCAC Quarterfinals.

Captain **Owen Powers** '20, who finished the season with a team-high 22 points, was quick to find the positives in the season. "Although we were disappointed with the end result, I am really proud of the steps this team has taken over my 3 years here at Midd. I look forward to watching their continued success. Cheer boys cheer."

Co-captain **Brett Dineen** '20 shared a similar sentiment. "We accomplished a lot as a group including the team's first home playoff game in six years. I'm excited to see what the returners continue to achieve in the rest of their Middlebury career."

The Cardinals head to Williamstown next weekend, where they will face off against the top-seeded Ephs in the NESCAC Quarterfinals.